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Security Council

Fifty-sixth year

Provisional

4432nd meeting

Friday, 30 November 2001, 11.55 a.m.

New York

President:	Miss Durrant	(Jamaica)
Members:	Bangladesh	Mr. Chowdhury
	China	Mr. Wang Yingfan
	Colombia	Mr. Franco
	France	Mr. Doutriaux
	Ireland	Mr. Corr
	Mali	Mr. Kassé
	Mauritius	Mr. Koonjul
	Norway	Mr. Strømmen
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Singapore	Mr. Mahbubani
	Tunisia	Mr. Jerandi
	Ukraine	Mr. Kuchinsky
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Jeremy Greenstock
	United States of America	Mr. Cunningham

Agenda

Wrap-up discussion on the work of the Security Council for the current month

Letter dated 7 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2001/1055)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

01-66971 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 11.55 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Wrap-up discussion on the work of the Security Council for the current month

Letter dated 7 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2001/1055)

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2001/1055, which contains the text of a letter dated 7 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the Untied Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

I now wish to make statement.

At the beginning of Jamaica's presidency of the Security Council this month, we underscored that one of our main objectives would be to support initiatives that would promote sustainable peace and security. While seeking to advance the peace process on all the issues before the Council, it was our aim to continue to pay particular attention to the humanitarian effects of conflicts and to the protection of civilians in armed conflict, in particular the most vulnerable — women and children.

Against this background, our programme for the month sought to highlight several conflict situations with the aim of encouraging a more proactive Security Council response. In so doing, we hoped to build confidence and trust between the Security Council and various actors, demonstrating the commitment of the Council to respond meaningfully to these crises.

As Jamaica approaches it final month in the Security Council, we believe that this wrap-up meeting provides an opportune moment to reflect on the dynamics for change within the Security Council, which will enhance the Council's capacity in its role as a vital organ of the United Nations. The notes for the wrap-up meeting, which were circulated, raised a number of issues and posed some questions on which we invited members to comment and to offer their recommendations.

The first one relates to transparency. There have been considerable improvements in the transparency of the Security Council through open meetings and briefings and meetings between the President of the Council and affected or interested Member States, representatives of institutions and non-governmental organizations. Are there other ways in which the Council can interact with Member States and others, in order to share in their views on issues before the Council?

Secondly, Council members often receive information from press reports on initiatives taken by individual Member States, groups of States and/or organizations on issues of which the Council is seized. Should Council members be satisfied that this is an appropriate source of information in the exercise of their responsibilities, or should we establish a practice whereby the Council receives briefings on a timely basis from these actors?

Thirdly, drawing on the experience of the ministerial week, would it serve the interest of peace and security if important issues before the Council were discussed more frequently at the ministerial level?

Fourthly — and this relates to thematic debates — there have been a number of thematic debates in the Security Council that have led to several recommendations for the issues involved to be examined in respect of specific conflict situations. How can we ensure that the outcomes of these debates are mainstreamed in the resolutions of the Security Council and the reports of the Secretary-General?

Finally, over the past two years, in addition, the use of Security Council missions to areas of conflict has proved to be a very effective tool in the confidence-building between the various actors and the Security Council. Should Security Council missions be used more frequently, particularly in more difficult situations before the Council, as a means of advancing the peace?

As there is no list of speakers for this meeting, I would invite members of the Council, as we do in informal consultations, to indicate when they wish to take the floor in the course of our discussion.

Mr. Koonjul (Mauritius): Let me start by warmly congratulating you, Madam President, and your formidable team on a most successful presidency of the Security Council during the month of November. The agenda of the Security Council under the Jamaican presidency has been most diverse in its range of issues and has given us the opportunity to hear in this Chamber the views of a very large number of ministers, political leaders and other personalities on the subjects on which the Council has been working.

Despite the very heavy schedule occasioned by the unexpected — or, rather, I would say the expected unexpected — the Jamaican delegation has indeed fulfilled the objectives it had set out at the beginning of the month. Conflicts in Africa, the situation in Afghanistan and the predicament of civilians, in particular children in armed conflict, have been fully addressed during the month of November.

The focus on Africa in your programme of work, Madam, clearly demonstrates the commitment of the Jamaican delegation to advance the peace processes in all situations of armed conflict on the African continent. With the exception of Somalia, which was dealt with in a most adequate manner under the Irish presidency, not a single conflict situation in Africa was left out. They all received the special attention they deserved and that you, Madam, had intended for them. My delegation is most grateful to you for that.

The private meeting of the Security Council on 8 November on Burundi will, no doubt, go down in the history of the Security Council. On that day, the Security Council, at your initiative, had the opportunity to listen for the last time in this Chamber to former President Nelson Mandela speaking in his capacity as facilitator in the Burundi crisis. History will also record that a meeting took place in the Security Council with the Jamaican Minister for Foreign Affairs, The Honourable Mr. Knight, in the Chair.

Equally important was the meeting of the Security Council with the Ministers of the Arusha Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi. That meeting was timely, as it was held only a week after the establishment of a Transitional Government in Burundi. It allowed Council members to interact in a positive manner with those engaged in the Regional Initiative and encouraged them to pursue their efforts in finding a lasting solution to the Burundi crisis.

The meeting of the Security Council with the Lusaka Political Committee was opportune and fruitful. Security Council resolution 1376 (2001), adopted at the end of the meeting, enlists the commitments of the parties to the conflict on various important issues, in particular disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration (DDRRR), in order to take forward the peace process.

By organizing meetings of the Security Council at the ministerial level during the ministerial week of the General Assembly, the Jamaican delegation, in a remarkable manner, took optimum advantage of the presence of the Ministers in New York to highlight various issues pertaining to international peace and security. This is a practice that indeed needs to be maintained.

The large number of public meetings held under your presidency, Madam, has contributed to making the work of the Council more transparent. From the echo we have had from outside this Chamber, the general membership of the United Nations has been very appreciative and has fully benefited from those meetings. The two public meetings on children in armed conflict and the protection of civilians in armed conflict, on 20 and 21 November, indicate the genuine commitment of your delegation to making its contribution to the alleviation of the plight of civilians in armed conflict. We note that your delegation has been very consistent in its approach in this respect, be it in informal consultations or formal meetings of the Council. The adoption of a comprehensive resolution on children in armed conflict under your presidency could therefore not have been more appropriate.

The testimony given by the child soldier from Sierra Leone provided the Security Council with a rare opportunity to listen to firsthand evidence of the atrocities and trauma suffered by children in armed conflicts.

The ministerial meeting of the Security Council on counter-terrorism was an excellent initiative and provided our ministers with the opportunity to exchange views in a frank and candid manner on an issue of international importance. The meeting undoubtedly sent a clear message that the Security Council was determined to stem that scourge in all its forms and wherever it is manifest. The adoption of resolution 1377 (2001) was a further step in reaffirming that determination.

We salute the initiative of the Jamaican delegation in having persuaded the Secretariat to set up a Web site for the presidency of the Security Council, which we hope future presidencies will be able to benefit from.

My delegation is grateful to you, Madam President, for having tackled the very delicate issue of the speakers' list. We note that the new system is working well and without complaint from members of the Council. We sincerely hope that this practice will be continued under future presidencies.

Finally, I should like to state that the Jamaican delegation has indeed, during its presidency of the Security Council, used each opportunity to support and advance the Council's initiatives in the promotion of peace and security. I must say, Madam President, you have set very high standards, which you have upheld during your presidency despite the small size of your team. Following presidencies, especially those with equally small teams, will have to work very hard to maintain those standards.

Mr. Granovsky (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): The delegation of the Russian Federation highly commends your work, Madam President, and sincerely congratulates you on the successful manner in which you have discharged your responsibilities as President of the Security Council for this month.

Madam President, you were faced with the very difficult challenge of ensuring that the work of the Council proceeded smoothly during a number of very serious international events, which coincided with ministerial week in the General Assembly. It is the opinion of my delegation that you discharged the duties entrusted to you with a high degree of professionalism and fully achieved the goals set by Jamaica at the beginning of its presidency.

We also commend the manner in which Security Council made use of the presence in the General Assembly of many foreign ministers and other members of Government of various States. Suffice it to mention the meeting of the Security Council at the foreign minister level on the question of combating terrorism; the participation by the foreign ministers of many countries in the Council's meeting on Afghanistan; the Council's meeting, with the participation of members of the Political Committee for the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, on the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and the discussion of the situation in Burundi, with the participation of members of the Government of countries of the region.

We believe that this practice is extremely useful. We deem it very important that in November, both in the formal meetings and in the consultations of the Security Council, top priority matters were touched on that have a direct relationship to the main task of the Council — the maintenance of international peace and security. We take note in this connection of the regular discussions of the situation in Afghanistan and in a number of African States.

The meeting with President Nelson Mandela, at which we discussed the situation in Burundi, was very useful. We had a very open and very specific talk between members of the Security Council and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia and Eritrea. The Council also reacted in a timely manner to the Kosovo elections and adopted an important resolution that extended the humanitarian programme in Iraq.

Madam President, I am familiar with your particular commitment to the question of protecting civilians in conflict situations — particularly women and children — and we were not disappointed by the formal meetings of the Security Council held on these questions. They once again made it possible for us to consider those aspects of this very difficult set of problems that fall within the purview of the Security Council.

On the whole, the work of the Council in November was purposeful in nature and geared towards the attainment of practical results. A large number of practical decisions were taken, and we were able to consider the items on our agenda in a consistent and thorough manner.

Sir Jeremy Greenstock (United Kingdom): Madam, it is not just because you hold the presidency this month that I want to thank the Jamaican delegation for its efforts over the past few years to bring a very distinctive voice to the business of the Security Council, under your leadership and that of Ambassador Ward. It has been very important to us, and I think that we have learned quite a lot from you and from seeing the Security Council through your eyes, so I thank you not just for this month, but for the whole two years of Jamaica's work on the Council.

I would very much like to talk about your agenda, in the note that you have sent around to us, and to get a discussion going, because — perhaps particularly since 11 September — there is a growing momentum behind the work of the United Nations, in which the Security Council is playing a leading part. But we are not yet doing enough that is right, even if we are doing more things that are right.

Madam President, I think that you have put your finger on it in introducing, as a first item for discussion after that, the issue of transparency. Perhaps it is a bit ironic that we are going to have a discussion of transparency this morning with rather a pathetic number of non-Council States Members of the United Nations present with us. I thought that the whole point of having this discussion in the open was to allow the membership to listen to how the Security Council wanted to reflect their concerns about how the Security Council works.

Be that as it may, the issue of transparency is, I think, the leading area in which the Council can increase its authority and its sensitivity to outside influences, particularly among Member States that are not on the Council.

Madam President, we should consider whether there are ways for the Council to interact with Member States other than the ones we have traditionally had in our locker. I think that there are, and that we need to adapt our procedures and the way in which we work. We are beginning to talk informally more with the membership outside, and in certain areas I think that it is beginning to work. I think that the counter-terrorism Committee is a special item and that it does not necessarily set a precedent that can be used in other areas of work.

I have been very struck by the responsiveness of the membership to the outreach programme of the counter-terrorism Committee. It is informal, but it is regular, and it gets a response from Member States. They have come to the meetings that we have had on these items, not with complaints about the Security Council — which they might well have had, given the unique nature, I think, of resolution 1373 (2001) — but in order to bring out the questions they have in their minds about the substance of what we are doing. Clearly, we cannot do that on every issue, and it is not on every issue that we need the proactive cooperation of every Member State. But it is an area which deserves more consideration.

That may connect with a different proposal that I have made from time to time: on items where we need the implementation of our resolutions to be taken forward in transparency and with cooperation from Member States, it might help to nominate a member of the Council to help us drive forward that implementation. If that can be done transparently with the membership — and we do not as a Council feel that every such transparency meeting has to be attended by every member of the Council — and if we have a collective approach to this within which we understand each other, then I think it would be highly useful.

Here is a another feature that I think is beginning to grow within the Security Council: we like passing resolutions 15 to nil. I do not know whether that is a new feeling. Obviously, we all like consensus and unanimity, but in the past we have driven things forward even where there were abstentions and negative votes. But there is something about the relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly that makes consensus important, and the nature of our work in this millennial and post-11 September era is that the Security Council actually likes to show that it is unanimous on a subject because its authority is greater if we are unanimous on a subject. I think we are beginning to understand each other better on that.

Therefore, perhaps it does lend itself to an extension of our procedures, whereby we express that unanimity through what we do outside the Council in more informal meetings, where individual members or smaller groups of the Council can represent the views of the Council on specific issues. You are right, Madam President, to show that it is a two-way process. I think we have to be quite careful about groups of friends coming to brief us on an absolutely regular basis, as though there were rights to this. Where it is relevant to an issue, I think there can be that kind of interaction. But I do not think we should formalize it. I think we should handle that area in ad hoc ways and ways which serve the purpose of a subject as it is at a particular juncture.

On reports from the press, of course we are going to pay attention to the media; I think we should. But let us all be responsible about that. I would hate the Council to respond from time to time to some corners

of the British press, which can be thoroughly irresponsible. But where the press is credible and responsible on issues, it is a highly important source of both factual input and comment, and I think we should be responsive to it.

On ministers: "yes", to a degree. I think the value of ministerial discussion is often that it is rare and gives a particular impetus to a particular subject at a particular time. I do not think we should regularize it. Ministerial discussions should always be well prepared, so that there is a good outcome and not a banal outcome. The fact of discussion alone is not enough to take a subject forward.

Here is perhaps another truth about the Security Council, and about the United Nations generally: if it is not projecting a powerful message at a particular time, ministers do not pay attention to it. Our Governments do not pay attention to the United Nations unless it directly affects their national interests on a particular day. So, I think we must careful in our choice of ministerial debate, but also encourage greater ministerial interest in the Security Council because we are doing the right thing and we need our Governments to cap it with a ministerial response, either from capitals or in a debate.

On thematic debates, I think we are in danger of overdoing it. We need to take forward the themes that we have in a way that produces results. Mainstreaming these issues needs to be done through the interaction of the Security Council with the Secretariat and the Secretary-General. Where we have taken forward a theme, it is an invitation to the Secretariat and the agencies of the United Nations to mainstream in their own work what we have said and to bring them back to us with questions raised against a specific issue. That is the importance of thematic debate.

This can be extended to the General Assembly, as well. Let me give you a very small example. Violence against civilians has been abhorred by both the Security Council and the General Assembly. Yet where in the current draft text on a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine is there any mention of our abhorrence of violence against civilians in general? It is not there. So, I think we need the Security Council to make sure that the themes that we advance are then mainstreamed into the specific issues where we have a voice.

If we take all those things forward — and the many others that will be raised this morning — I think we will increase the momentum behind an increasingly operational Security Council, and that that will be good for us as a Council and good for interaction with Member States.

Mr. Corr (Ireland): May I first thank you, Madam President, and the presidency for arranging this wrap-up open debate. The value of these concluding wrap-up meetings is not just to thank the presidency for its work during the month. It also, as you know, allows us to reflect on and assess the work of the Council during the month, and to do so at a public meeting.

To say, "thank you" first, this was a presidency of strong ambitions and goals with a clear agenda. My delegation feels that in all these areas, these tasks were very successfully met, and we very much appreciate this.

At the beginning of the month, the Jamaican presidency set its objective to support initiatives which we believe best promote sustainable peace and security. Let me briefly focus on these areas before also referring to some of the issues that Ambassador Greenstock and others have mentioned.

Ireland very much welcomed the strong focus that the Jamaican presidency placed on African issues. On the Democratic Republic of the Congo, we had a very useful and important meeting with the ministers of the Political Committee of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement. Strong views were expressed at this meeting — but vigorous and healthy debate is good — and the Council adopted a very helpful resolution which moves forward the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the process.

The second public meeting that was also very helpful, as has been said earlier, was the one with the ministers of the Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi. In both the case of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and that of Burundi, the Council was able not just to debate and to interact with ministers but also to signal frankly our own sense of engagement, involvement and views on the range of issues. The meeting on Burundi with President Mandela, in particular, offered a chance to say thank you to the President for his own central facilitation role.

On Ethiopia/Eritrea and the role of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE), we also had a very useful meeting with the ministers from those two countries during the month. This allowed us a chance to emphasize the importance that the Council attaches to the removal of obstacles in the work of the force and to give clear indications of concerns we may have, as well as to listen to their concerns.

On Afghanistan, the presidency naturally and rightly gave a great deal of attention to ensuring that the Council received regular briefings and that we had the chance to discuss the humanitarian situation, but also to have broad discussions on the wider issues that, I think, can only have been very helpful to Mr. Brahimi in the period leading into Bonn. The humanitarian issue, of course, was crucial in our discussions during the month, and it provided a very useful chance not only for the Secretariat to brief the Council but also for the Council to express our own concerns on issues of food security for civilians and on the rights under humanitarian law not only of civilians but also of persons seeking to surrender and of persons giving up arms, about which the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) has reminded us over recent weeks.

I would like to pay particular tribute to Jamaica on another issue: the Working Group on peacekeeping operations. Again, this goes not just for the period of the presidency but also the period before it. It is right at this stage to pay particular tribute to Ambassador Ward for his work in this area during the month and over the recent period.

Madam President, I will briefly address some of the points in your paper. On the normative side Ireland found extremely helpful the debates on "Children and armed conflict" and the "Protection of civilians in armed conflict". They were debates in which we were able to give clear views and cast light on issues of enormous importance, not just to the Council but also to the work of the Organization.

On transparency, my delegation has consistently and strongly supported this as an important matter, especially in the context of public meetings.

On the issue of normative debates, there are, however, two caveats that do seem important to us, and they echo some of the comments that Ambassador Greenstock made. Because the Council has become so engaged in so many issues over recent years — an incremental process that is clearly continuing — there is naturally and rightly a demand from within the United Nations system for it to integrate the normative framework into the work of the Council. The difficulty with this, of course, is that the Council has limited time at its disposal in any given month to address the range of issues that come before it, and it is clear that, while the normative framework is crucial, at the same time the Council should not do what belongs to other United Nations bodies, whether it is the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, agencies or other bodies. The Council has its own role under the Charter. It cannot do or re-do what should be or is being done elsewhere. To do otherwise would dissipate its own central Charter obligations and would also, paradoxically, diminish the rightful and separate role that other United Nations bodies have in these areas.

This is not in any way to say that the normative role is not crucial or that we should not debate it, as we did very substantially this month in key areas; but it is to say that the crucial issue is for the Council to ensure that in thematic areas where there is a normative framework agreed — whether it is in peacekeeping, peace-building, children, gender issues, humanitarian issues or other spheres — the central role for the Council must be to ensure that what is already agreed must be fully operationalized in our own work. This is true, for example, in issues such as peacekeeping and peacemaking and in examples such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo or Sierra Leone, where a whole range of requirements is involved. What we have to do, issue by issue, situation by situation, is to ensure that what is already agreed is fully implemented.

How this can be done is difficult, given the pressures on the Council's timescale. It could be done by setting up a committee or by having one member of the Council monitor these issues and report on them. There are a range of options. But clearly there is something of a weakness in this approach.

A further brief point I wish to make is about the Council's workload. It does seem to my delegation that the Council is too overloaded and, at times, is spread too thin while assessing many of the issues before it. We have to look seriously at our agenda and procedures. For example, do we need to formalize committees of the Council to filter issues before full debates? Do we need time limits on speeches? Whatever the answer, there is a problem in this area, and we do feel that it needs to be addressed.

A final point in this area relates to the role of the Secretariat, which performs heroically — not just for the Council but across the United Nations spectrum. There may well be a case for looking again at the possibility of the Secretariat having a full analysis and research unit to draw together all of these different threads — normative, thematic and operational — into a framework that would enable it to meet Council requirements substantially in that area.

On the issue of press reports, we fully share the view that there should be briefings in this area and that it is unwise for the Council or for some Council members to have to act simply on the basis of press briefings.

On ministerial meetings, we also see great value in this practice, particularly ministerial week. The meetings this month on counter-terrorism and Afghanistan were very useful. But as has also been said, there is a risk in setting up a hierarchy of importance of Council meetings. All Council meetings are important; therefore, this matter needs to be approached with some sensitivity and wisdom, while at the same time with full agreement on the importance of ministerial meetings from time to time.

In conclusion, my delegation thought that the presidency's work programme was excellent during the month, and we want to warmly thank you, Madam President, and everybody on the Jamaican team. I would also like to echo what was said earlier, that as Jamaica leaves the Security Council at the end of the year, you will be very much missed among those of us who stay on. We very much admired the creativity, the independence and the determination that Jamaica brought to the work of the Council, and we pay you warm tribute for your contribution.

Mr. Jerandi (Tunisia) (*spoke in French*): Madam President, like other colleagues, I would like to warmly congratulate you, on behalf of my delegation, on the way you have conducted the business of the Council during the month of November. Re-reading the programme of work that you so perfectly executed shows that you have achieved the objectives that you spelled out at the beginning of the month, as related in the document that you kindly made available to us. We congratulate you once again on this.

The Council held consultation meetings, as well as open meetings, on various items on its agenda. Open debates were held on the topics of "Children and armed conflict" and "Protection of civilians in armed conflict", and this reinforces the vision of our delegation that, when it is a question of dealing with a crisis or a conflict — or even a situation of intra- or inter-State tension — we must duly take into account the related consequences of the conflict and the decisions of the Council regarding the social, humanitarian, regional and subregional aspects of the situation under consideration.

We agree with you, Madam President, that the issues of children and civilians in conflict should be given complete attention by the Council both in specific cases and during the decision-making process.

Turning to the items on the Council's agenda, we deem relevant the practice of holding regular briefing sessions, particularly on situations that could be called "hot", as is currently the case of Afghanistan. We wonder why this practice has not been applied to the situation prevailing in the occupied Palestinian territories. As I hardly need recall, it is the longest conflict in recent times, yet it receives the least attention from the Security Council. Initiatives are being taken here and there to try to resolve the conflict, and the tension in the region is high. But that should not prevent Council members from being informed about or discussing such steps as are being taken, or from considering the facts on the ground, which are very often distorted by certain media. I agree with the comment that members of the Council receive most of their information about certain initiatives through the media. My delegation believes that the media certainly play an important role, but that is not enough to enable the Council duly to discharge its mandate.

We also agree that the Council should do all that it can to listen to Member States through, inter alia, the regional and subregional organizations, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which are doing outstanding work, particularly in managing conflicts in West Africa.

With regard to Africa, my delegation is pleased to see the continent and its concerns occupying an important place in the activities of the Council. I cannot pretend that I would not be equally pleased if there were no conflicts in Africa with which the Council had to deal. We welcome the fact that the Council is involving to a greater extent the States and parties concerned in considering these items on its agenda.

We are pleased in particular that the Council has forged partnerships in the past two years with the Political Committee for the Implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, the Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, and ECOWAS. The meetings that were held in the framework of those partnerships, including those held under your presidency, Madam, have proved their usefulness. We support the continuation of that tradition.

We believe that ministerial meetings of the Council are useful, particularly when very important issues for international peace and security are at stake. It has almost become a tradition for members of the Council to meet at least at ministerial level during the general debate in the General Assembly. But we believe that one or two meetings at that level throughout the year, especially on major topics, would be a positive contribution.

Those were just a few points that I wanted to transmit to you, Madam, as you presidency comes to an end. Once again, I would like to emphasize that, thanks to your diplomatic skill and wisdom, and the professionalism of your entire delegation, it has been an outstanding presidency.

Mr. Chowdhury (Bangladesh): Over the past month, Madam President, you have led us with wisdom, skill and determination. You have brought your prodigious qualities to your responsibilities, and they have also been reflected in your remarks today. You deserve high praise. We also pay tribute to Ambassador Ward and others in your mission for their splendid work; truly, it has been a great presidency.

The circulation of your paper setting out the objectives for the month was a useful innovation. It enabled the Council to focus on the issues to be followed during the month. This paper has now emerged as a point of reference as we assess our performance throughout November and as we reflect on the follow-up. This month has witnessed the adoption of a number of landmark resolutions. Much credit for that fact is owed to your innovative exercise. You set for us a dozen objectives. Let me flag some that we believe to be key.

On the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the ministerial meeting with the Lusaka parties was marked by a significant breakthrough: the commitment of the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie to demilitarize Kisangani. The Council will have to pursue that long-sought objective. Resolution 1304 (2000) remains, essentially, on paper only. Let us pursue implementation of resolution 1376 (2001) through all means. If need be, the Council should step up pressure on the parties to facilitate the phase III deployment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Some progress has been achieved with regard to the operation of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea. Nonetheless, the peace process is threatened by the mounting hostility between Addis Ababa and Asmara. The violation of the demilitarized zone is one of a number of negative developments. We should seek the advice of the Secretary-General on a possible course of action; perhaps a Council mission to the area would help calm the situation.

Now I would like to refer to Afghanistan. Afghanistan has, naturally, dominated our agenda throughout the month. The United Nations has assumed the central role that the General Assembly recommended. Without any prejudice to ongoing efforts, let me in this connection raise the issue of the United Nations peacekeeping capacity. Our heads of State and Government made a solemn commitment in this regard last year. The reality is that the Council's role in Afghanistan remains limited. Once again, the capacity of the United Nations to respond quickly in a conflict situation remains in question. The responsibility had to be assumed by a coalition of the willing. The developments on the ground far outpaced the preparedness of the United Nations to rapidly put in place a peacekeeping operation.

This brings me to the thematic and operational issue of peacekeeping operations. My delegation appreciates the time allotted by your presidency, Madam, to the Working Group. However, I understand that there is lack of consensus on a favourable response to the proposal of the troop-contributing countries for setting up mission-specific committees.

It would be unfortunate if the Council were to retract the commitment it made in its recent presidential statements and resolutions. Let me make one point clear — and I am speaking for the largest troop-contributing country. Bangladesh strongly endorses the draft note presented by Ambassador Ward as Chairman of the Working Group. Resolution 1353 (2001) recognized partnership with the troop-contributing countries. We, as troop-contributing

countries — contributors of formed units — have a high stake in the missions concerned. We are seeking an institutional framework to foster this partnership. The troop-contributing countries, in asking for the framework, are seeking one shared objective — that is, doing right by peacekeeping.

My final point involves the relationship between the Chamber and the world beyond. The Council is primarily responsible for the maintenance of peace and security, although that is not its exclusive responsibility. We need a partnership with a broader United Nations membership — the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other stakeholders, including the non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Within the United Nations system this could and, indeed, should be done within the ambit of the Charter, as has been remarked.

A way to engage the outside world is, perhaps, to have increased recourse to public meetings. We must make ourselves relevant to the rest of the world. The Council must be brought out of the consultation room. In emphasizing this point, I refer to the discussion on the matter in January this year, under Ambassador Mahbubani's presidency. Greater transparency in our work is essential if we want the world to hear us and listen — I echo some of the sentiments of Ambassador Greenstock today. But how do we go about that? Would unscripted deliberations make the Council's work more interactive? Should we cease to restate our national positions only in formal statements? The right answers to these queries could render our performance more rewarding.

We need to explore ways and means for substantive dialogue with the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as with the other funds and programmes. Sir Jeremy's initiative for joint meetings with the Economic and Social Council should be pursued.

The Arria-formula meetings have been used fruitfully. This has particularly assisted in discussions with the NGOs. The Council should arrange for regular exchange of information and views with humanitarian and human rights non-governmental actors, as well as those associated with gender mainstreaming. Such partners as those have unsurpassed outreach. We should also relate more widely to the think tanks. All of us keenly profited from yesterday's conference. The initiative, coming after the forum on regional approaches sponsored by Ambassador Valdivieso, set a very positive trend.

On a personal note, I would like to say that I am the newest kid on the block. But I was fortunate enough to receive my initiation during the period of your stewardship, Madam. Some days ago, in this Chamber, Olara Otunnu gave a rendition of a song by Bob Marley. Today, with the torch passing to Mali, but in the full knowledge that your contribution will continue, let me cite another great singer closely associated with your country, Harry Belafonte, and say, "Jamaica, farewell".

Mr. Doutriaux (France) (*spoke in French*): France will not say farewell to you as in the song, Madam President, as you certainly will remain here with us beyond the month of your presidency. As other speakers have already said, your mark, and that of your country, on the work of the Security Council and the United Nations extends beyond the work done during just this one month, which has indeed been excellent. Beyond your work this month, Madam President, I would like, by way of example, to mention your tireless work on behalf of children and in preparation for the summit on children, as well as the work done by your Deputy Permanent Representative, Mr. Ward, in the area of cooperation with troop-contributing countries. I believe that the work of Jamaica and its Mission in those two areas will go far beyond this month, however substantial the month of your presidency has been.

Madam President, you have submitted a document to the Council about which I would like to make a few comments. My first comment relates to transparency. I think the President is correct in continuing to emphasize the importance of improving the transparency of the Council's work. Many efforts have been made in the last year or two, and we must continue in that direction. I believe that we are responding better and better to the demands of non-members of the Council for an interactive dialogue with them. Of course, as others have said, the open and transparent meetings are sometimes very formal and replete with too many repetitive national statements. Each of us, members and non-members of the Council alike, needs to make an effort to make meetings more interactive and less formal. There are several ways of doing that. As others have said, that could involve meetings with other bodies. For instance, Ambassador

Greenstock made an excellent proposal to hold an informal meeting with the Economic and Social Council and, possibly, with the presidency of the General Assembly. This could also involve closed meetings with groups of countries, such as the ones we have had on numerous occasions with the signatories to the Lusaka agreements, with those involved in the Arusha process on Burundi, and with the Economic Community of West African States on Sierra Leone and the West African region. I think we should continue in that vein.

I would like in particular to emphasize the dialogue between the Security Council and troop-contributing countries. We believe that we must go further on the basis of the recommendations made by the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations, led by Ambassador Ward. As the Ambassador of Bangladesh has just said, we should be able to continue to make progress. France has for several months suggested establishing subsidiary Council bodies for the major peacekeeping operations, and in that framework we could hold regular dialogues between Council members and troop-contributing countries. We believe that we must continue the thinking that has begun in the Working Group and that, as one of us has already proposed, the Group could continue its activities next year in order to make further progress in the dialogue with troop-contributing countries. We are making that proposal for the very simple reason that we can have peacekeeping operations only if we have contingents available for peacekeeping; hence the importance of having a very regular dialogue with troop-contributing countries.

The President's note also refers to briefings the Council could receive from Member States, organizations and groups of friends. There are sometimes questions with regard to the usefulness of groups of friends. I would recall that such groups involve members of the Council as well as non-members. This has also provided a way of having dialogue with non-members of the Council that are Members of the United Nations. That, too, is part of the spirit of transparency and dialogue. But, of course, groups of friends do not exist to do the work of the Council. That must be clear. The Council has its own responsibilities and must fully assume them. But there is no reason why groups of friends or the coordinator of a group of friends could not fully brief the Council on their activities as necessary. I think that the importance of groups of friends is that they bring together countries that are particularly interested in a given crisis, including troop-contributing countries when a peacekeeping operation exists, to discuss how they can act together usefully for the cause of peace in the region concerned.

My last comment has to do with ministerial meetings. In this regard we have seen that the practice is for ministers to meet at the margins of the General Assembly's ministerial week. I believe that has been the case for a number of years. Should that be formalized or not? Undoubtedly, it should not be formalized. At the same time, however, we need to recognize that this takes place almost systematically every year during the ministerial week. As others have said, those meetings need to be well prepared, lead to useful results and deal with very well-defined topics that are closely related to the work of the Security Council.

I have a final point on thematic debates. thematic debates are very useful when they deal with matters under the purview of the Security Council. As to how they can be linked to conflict situations, I believe that depends on the particular thematic debate. I believe that the thematic debate on the protection of children in armed conflict was very useful, as this is a problem that comes up in questions before the Council — for example, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in the Great Lakes region and in Sierra Leone. We can use the resolution on the protection of children in armed conflict, adopted under the presidency of Jamaica, to deal with conflicts before the Council. But, in general terms, we must also ensure that we respect the competence of the General Assembly. I recall that in certain thematic debates in the past certain non-members of the Council that were invited to participate in the debate stated that we had to see to it that the Council did not impinge on the General Assembly's competences.

I thank you again, Madam President, for the very complete agenda we had during November. I also thank you for your very useful note, which has made it possible for us to respond to some of the questions you posed to us.

Mr. Chen Xu (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): Several things about our work in November were unique. For one, great changes have taken place in the situation in Afghanistan. Despite the fact that the Council's

schedule was very tight this month, the presidency still made timely arrangements for briefings and discussions. That illustrates the importance we attach to the question of Afghanistan. We have achieved good results.

Another thing that makes November unique is that we made good use of the presence of foreign ministers attending the general debate of the General Assembly here in New York to hold a series of important meetings that have had notable results, especially with regard to the situation in Africa.

A third aspect that made November unique was the fact that the work of the Council was more transparent, and that it was very thoughtfully and meticulously arranged by the President. We made our plans at the beginning of the month, and now, at the end of the month, we are wrapping up. The presidency also distributed written materials to that end. We would also like to express our gratitude to you, Madam President, and your Mission for your excellent performance this month.

I would like to make three brief comments by way of reviewing the goals we set for this month.

First, as mentioned before, making good use of the presence of ministers for the General Assembly to convene ministerial meetings focussed on important questions is conducive to strengthening direct contacts between the Security Council and the leaders of various countries, as well as to promoting the resolution of specific issues. It is worth reflecting on our experience in this regard and attaching some importance to it. Of course, the question of whether it is necessary to regularly convene ministerial meetings during the plenary session of the General Assembly should be determined for the most part by prevailing circumstances and necessities.

Secondly, we are in favour of the Security Council's giving greater heed to the opinions and recommendations of parties concerned in the questions on its agenda. The Chinese delegation has maintained that, before making important decisions, the Security Council should provide opportunities to hear the opinions of non-members. We hope that we shall be able to reach consensus on this question and implement it.

At present, we engage in various formalities, such as private formal meetings, Arria formula meetings and direct contact between the presidency and the parties concerned. All these can be made good use of. We also support the strengthening of cooperation and communication among the Security Council, troop-contributing countries and the Secretariat. We also appreciate the efforts made by Ambassador Ward in presiding over the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations. We believe that the discussions of the Working Group will have a positive outcome.

Thirdly, the Security Council held thematic debates this month, such as on children and armed conflict and the protection of civilians in armed conflict. These issues have many elements in common, including the measures and recommendations made concerning them. Provided that the overall result does not suffer, it would be a good idea to lump related questions together and to discuss them jointly, which could enhance our efficiency and avoid repetition. The result of this would be even better than what we have now.

As far as the Security Council is concerned, the best way to protect civilians is to redouble its efforts to end conflicts as soon as possible. At the same time, we are also in favour of improving coordination and cooperation between the Security Council and other organs of the United Nations so that we can make joint efforts to solve the problems before us.

Mr. Mahbubani (Singapore): Please allow me to begin by commending you, Madam, for organizing this wrap-up meeting.

Actually, I would like to begin with a plea to my colleagues to try as much as possible to institutionalize these wrap-up meetings, because they can be useful on many counts. First, of course, we can review what we did, where we succeeded and where we failed during the month. Secondly, I think we can also reflect on long-term trends and on how our work is going over the longer term. Thirdly and equally importantly, this is probably the only window that we have in the course of the month to reflect on how we can improve the work of the Council. Clearly, we do need to develop some kind of culture of innovation within the Council. These sort of meetings, if they are institutionalized, can provide us the opportunity to do so.

But to do that, at some point in time we do need to have a very serious discussion within the Council on what exactly our priorities are. I notice that

Ambassador Chowdhury of Bangladesh said that our primary responsibility is to handle threats to international peace and security, but are we primarily a deliberative body, a legislative body or an operational body? I think we do bits of all three, but we have to figure out what our priorities are; then, we can decide how we allocate our time. I hope that, at some point, we will get to such a discussion.

In this regard, I must say that I, like Ambassador Greenstock, regret the lack of participation of the Member States at this meeting. It is, unfortunately, a bad sign and what makes it sad is that, by having it open to the Member States, we thought that we could, in a sense, engage them. But we have not done so yet. I would also like to appeal to the Members that are not here to take such wrap-up meetings more seriously.

For example, we are in the middle of the plenary session of the General Assembly and I am told that, in one of the discussions in the Third Committee, there was apparently an effort to mention a Security Council resolution on women and peace and security. Several members of the General Assembly said: "No, that is the job of the Security Council. We will not endorse what the Security Council does." I think that represents a very unhealthy disconnect between the Security Council and the rest of the United Nations community. The representative of France also referred to that. We have to address that disconnect. Perhaps one way of doing that is through these wrap-up meetings and by making them open and interactive. In that way we can probably engage the non-members.

Coming to the work of this month, you, Madam, have been praised so much I am not so sure that I can add very much. What really impressed us was your time management. Increasingly, frankly, in the work of the Council, the most valuable and precious commodity we have is time. Indeed, we have found that, since we joined the Council, it is like a sponge, soaking up all our time. We just find it very difficult to manage all our other duties, but you, Madam, did it brilliantly in a month when you also had to deal with the ministerial week and, of course, the Thanksgiving holiday. Thus, in a very truncated month, you did a tremendous amount of work and we commend you for that. Of course, we commend you for producing, at the very beginning of month, the objectives paper and, at the end of the month, notes for the wrap-up meeting. This sort of systematic approach, we hope, will also become institutionalized.

What I would like to do now is talk a bit about the successes of the month in procedural and substantive issues. I think that, if these meetings are to be useful, we should also talk about failures. Let me reassure you, Madam, it is not about the failures of the presidency; it is about the failures of the Council.

As to the successes on the procedural issues, there have been several and they are, I think, significant ones. First, of course, is the setting up of the Security Council presidential web site. I think it is better to have one web site permanently on the United Nations web site, rather than to have it switch from month to month to different missions. It provides one-stop shopping for the Council's provisional programme of work, outputs, press statements, presidential statements and resolutions. I think that is a very important innovation, but we do need to try to develop it a bit further.

Ambassador Chowdhury talked about how we can make our informal consultations more transparent. We can do what France did when it held the presidency of the Council. On the French web site, it provided a daily summary of what was discussed and said in the informal consultations — of course, without revealing any names or countries. We know that this is time-consuming because we tried it during the Singapore presidency and we could not do it. Small missions do not have the resources to do it, but it is something that the Secretariat could try to do.

At the same time, of course, I think that we really made a very important innovation with the speakers' list. I am glad that Ambassador Koonjul referred to this. It may seem to be a small thing that we switched from whatever system we had in the past to drawing lots, but frankly, because it has created regularity and predictability and we can actually know when we are going to speak during the course of the day, it has made everyone feel that we have a level playing field when it comes to the selection of the speakers. I think it has also helped to improve the chemistry among the members and to make them feel that we were all equally treated and that we do not just belong to class A or class B within the Council.

We also thank you, Madam, for convening the informal working group on documentation and procedures, despite the busy month — and that is why it is quite remarkable. The working group, as members

know, has begun work on the report of the Security Council to the General Assembly.

One point we do want to emphasize is that if, just after a massive debate in the General Assembly on the report of the Security Council to the Assembly, we decide to ignore the views expressed and proceed to do exactly the same thing next year as we did in previous years, then we reinforce the views of those who say the Security Council does not listen to the members of the General Assembly. If we want to show that we are listening, then it is time for us to produce some real changes. And it can be done. Frankly, there is no reason why we should spend $600,000 a year for that report. It should cost us no more than $50,000. This can be done, and we have discovered in the course of working on it that there is much duplication that can be cut out.

Let me turn briefly to the successes on the substantive front. Here, clearly, I think the work we did on Afghanistan, including the meeting with Lakhdar Brahimi on 13 November and of course the adoption of resolution 1378 (2001), was very important. But equally important were the discussions we had in informal consultations. In the course of the discussions, I thought we were moving towards developing a sort of informal consensus among member States about what was doable and what was not doable within Afghanistan. The tragedy is that that institutional memory is lost. There is no agreed record of it. No summary points of it are kept. And when we come to making the big decisions on what kind of peacekeeping operations are to be set up in Afghanistan, we will not have an institutional memory to draw upon.

But, here, I am glad, Madam, that you organized the candid discussion that we had yesterday, together with the International Crisis Group (ICG) and the World Peace Foundation. I thought the level of the discussion was quite remarkable. I have never seen a better discussion of the question, "Can the United Nations say no?", as we had in yesterday's meeting, and I hope that some of that will be recorded and kept.

The other major decision we made was on Iraq, where we unanimously adopted resolution 1382 (2001). We know that the key provisions of the resolution lie in operative paragraph 2 and operative paragraph 6 — and I will not go into the details here. In this regard, we would like to commend the permanent five for working closely together and producing a consensus text for us. We are aware that they must have worked very hard; there must have been very complex trade-offs. We do not know what happened behind the scenes, but we do know that the result was a good one. We also know that, frankly, we have a massive job ahead of us over the next six months, if we are to finalize work on the next Iraq resolution. I understand that some of my colleagues have actually read the Goods-Review List. I must confess that I never had the chance to read it before we adopted it. It is too big a volume. But we will all have to read it at some point in time.

Very briefly, on the other issues that we discussed, such as Kosovo, we thank you, Madam, for giving us the time to reflect on them before we adopted the presidential statements. But I want to add a small footnote on the Kosovo issue. This represents a small, personal discovery. When we were discussing the results of the elections in Kosovo, I asked my colleagues when we were going to renew the mandate of the Kosovo peacekeeping operation. Then I discovered — and this reflects my ignorance — that while in every other mandate, there is a six- or three-month time limit, in Kosovo, there is no time limit. It is in perpetuity. Now there must have been some good reason why this was done. But I could not figure out why, nor who did it. Again, because of the lack of institutional memory, I'm not sure whom to turn to. But clearly we are meant to turn to those that were members of the Council at that time to ask them the reason for these double standards.

I also want to respond briefly to the comments made by Ambassador Doutriaux on the Group of Friends. I agree with him that the Group does play a useful role. I also agree that they help, in a sense, to link the Security Council with the General Assembly members. But I also would like to make a plea for greater transparency in their work. Sometimes we are not quite sure how they arrive at the various decisions that they present to us. Some indication of the background that went into their thinking would be useful to us.

Finally, turning to the failures — and as I have said, it is also very important to address failures — the biggest failure of the Council this past month was not to complete our work on the Working Group on Sanctions. The deadline for the work was November 2000. Now it is November 2001. But what is even more tragic is that the people who actually worked on this Working Group on Sanctions, especially

Bangladesh and the others — all the elected members who can actually remember what work they did will all be gone in a month. Then we have to start from scratch again. That, I think, is something that we should not accept.

I also want to touch a bit on the work of the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations. Here, I would like to pay tribute to Ambassador Ward for the incredibly hard work that he has done. The only tragedy here is that the Working Group has still not made much progress on the establishment of a new mechanism of cooperation between the Security Council and the troop-contributing countries. I recall Ambassador Chowdhury's call for stronger efforts to be made in that direction, because we were, in a sense, moving towards a relationship of greater trust between the troop-contributing countries and Security Council members. That movement has stalled because of the fear that their views are not being heard in the Working Group.

I have a quick note on the thematic debates. We think that the debates held on children in armed conflict and the protection of civilians were very important. Certainly, the presence of the child soldier from Sierra Leone was a dramatic event. But we also believe — and we said this when the debate took place — that it is time to start clustering these thematic debates on issues involving the protection of civilians, of women and of children and organizing them in such a way as to respond to Ireland's call for reducing the workload; the workload is obviously becoming too great for the Council.

Let me end with one concrete suggestion. Fortunately, we are having this meeting in the open. There will be a record of what has been said here, but we think that there have been many valuable, specific suggestions that have been made on how to improve the work of the Council. I hope we can try to make a kind of catalogue of the suggestions. We tried this in January at the closed, wrap-up meeting we had. We should begin to institutionalize this, and we hope that this can be done.

We will not join in the debate between Bangladesh and France on whether or not we should bid you farewell, Madam, but we look forward to continuing to work with you.

Mr. Kuchinsky (Ukraine): First of all, I would like to congratulate you, Madam, and your team on the successful conclusion of your presidency during this very challenging month, which was filled — or should I say, jam-packed — with all sorts of events and activities, both in the Council and outside it. I also thank you for the efficient and professional performance of your presidential duties, which greatly contributed to the constructive consideration of many issues on the Council's agenda. In fact, the programme of work that you had distributed on the eve of your presidency has been successfully completed, and I would say that the results are quite impressive.

In November, we had an extremely important ministerial meeting on counter-terrorism. We discussed Afghanistan intensively and adopted a very significant resolution to that effect. We managed to achieve consensus on Iraq. We had important thematic discussions on children in armed conflicts and on the protection of civilians. We touched upon many African issues — Angola, Ethiopia, Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Western Sahara, Sierra Leone and Liberia. We managed to extend the mandates of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). We had an important discussion of the activities of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and, of course, Kosovo and other issues on the agenda. And we are having an important wrap-up session today.

It is unfortunate that, while speaking about transparency, we do not have more representatives of Member States present here. So, maybe, as Ambassador Mahbubani suggested, we should think about it. Maybe we should lure members of the United Nations by giving them the opportunity to speak before the members of the Security Council, which was once done on another issue. Perhaps that would bring the Member States to this Chamber to participate in our discussion.

Madam President, let me quickly go through the questions raised in your note for the wrap-up meeting.

First, it should be recognized that during the month of November, the Council in general met the objectives set out in the document you distributed at the beginning of this month. The level of success was different on various issues, but that is the reality — the way things work in the Council. I agree with you,

Madam President, that there has been an improvement in the transparency of the Council's activities. I do not want to add the word "considerable", and I would pick up on what Kishore Mahbubani said. Maybe in the future, we can think about making consultations of the whole more transparent in one way or another, because, as in the past, most of the issues continue to be addressed behind closed doors, although the vast majority — though not all — of them can easily be discussed in an open format.

As to your question regarding other ways for the Council to interact with States and others, I think we have tried almost all of them. Of course, we can try to explore other ways, but in our view, frankly, this is not an issue. I think the issue is that the Council not only should try to be transparent but also should be seen as transparent by Member States. Even if after today's meeting we ask States outside the Council whether the Council is transparent or not, I am afraid that the majority of the replies will be in the negative. If the Council becomes truly transparent, the question of the Council's interaction with States and others will not be so acute as it is today.

On the procedure of receiving regular briefings from the States, organizations or groups of friends active in pursuing peace initiatives, frankly, during the two years of our membership in the Council, we have not seen any cases in which the Council refused to hear a State or organization when it asked to brief the Council on the implementation or results of peace initiatives being pursued. I believe that we should simply do this more often.

As to whether the press is the appropriate source of information for the Council on such initiatives, definitely not. It is the appropriate source of information for the public at large, but not for the Council. In our view, the Council is a body that should continue to receive information from various sources and act upon this information accordingly.

We agree with you, Madam President, that the ministerial week was one of the major highlights not only of the month but of the entire year. We think it was very successful. The Council used it to its full capacity and covered everything it could possibly within the time available. I support your view that the most important issues before the Council should continue to be discussed during such ministerial weeks if possible. I do not think it is realistic to have our ministers come here more than once or twice a year, but I believe that this year, the ministerial week was successful. It was during the ministerial week that we had the most important meetings, on terrorism, counter-terrorism and Afghanistan, during which the Council in fact set or reinforced its policies on these matters.

It is no exaggeration to say that this month, the attention of the Council has been focused mainly on the situation in Afghanistan. An open meeting on this subject on 13 November, with the participation of more than 20 foreign ministers, launched the beginning of the peace process in that country under United Nations auspices. It was extremely important to be updated regularly on the developments in Afghanistan, and we are thankful to the Secretariat and to you, Madam President, for the operative reaction to the developments in this area.

Finally, Madam President, I wish to commend your initiative to resolve the issue of the list of speakers. I strongly encourage future Presidents to continue your initiative. Once again, let me commend you and your team for what you have achieved during this month and for allowing the Council as a whole to be successful.

Mr. Cunningham (United States): Madam President, I will try to be very brief given the hour, but I want to pay tribute to you and your delegation as presidency and as members of the Security Council, as others have done, and to acknowledge the contribution that you and your team have made and that Ambassador Ward has made. I should also like to recall your contribution as a prominent member of Security Council missions to Sierra Leone and Kosovo, where I remember very fondly your personal input and contribution.

Without being complacent, I think we can say that we have done a lot of good work this month. I am not going to review the agenda, but simply note the progress we have made on terrorism, Afghanistan, the oil-for-food programme for Iraq and reinforcing a growing trend towards consensus, which I think is positive. We had a good series of high-level meetings on Africa, which I think on balance were a positive factor, although we hoped that we could have achieved more of a relationship between those meetings and developments in the real world.

I want to mention two specific items out of the many that have been mentioned here this morning.

First, on transparency, I agree that we need to do a better job at this, but that does not necessarily mean holding more open meetings. For example, I am not sure that we have today's format right, as others have said. What we do need to do is find a better way, under the label of transparency, to build a stronger connection between what we do and the rest of the membership, and to be innovative in finding ways to do that. As some others have suggested, that means promoting more interaction. I think the best way to do that is through less formal, not more formal, proceedings. After a couple of years here, my conclusion is that the less formal the setting — whether for this body or for its interaction with others — the more genuine the discussion and interaction we have.

We have a couple of good examples to look at, and I am sure there will be others in the coming months. Ambassador Greenstock has set a good example in his approach to outreach and his work on the Counter-Terrorism Committee. Jamaica itself set a good example in helping to sponsor yesterday's very good meeting on peace operations and in coordinating that meeting with the Security Council's schedule. That was not in any strict sense a meeting between the Security Council and anyone else, but it brought together interested members of the Council, outside interested people and Members of the United Nations that are not Council members in what I thought was a very interesting and useful discussion. We ought to find more ways to do that. Ambassador Ward deserves credit for trying to find ways to improve the way in which the Security Council and troop-contributing countries interact and to build a way for real exchanges in that connection as well. Sometimes formal meetings and formal presentations can be useful, but my own guess is that we are too far down that path — it takes a lot of time, and they are also limited in potential and impact.

Secondly, on ministerial meetings, I agree with others who have suggested that we ought to use Security Council meetings at ministerial level sparingly. It is an important instrument, and we should not dilute the impact of it. We should also use the presence of Ministers here, whether during ministerial week or otherwise to enhance interaction between other countries and the Council members, particularly when we have the occasion to address regions in conflict, such as we had recently with the Lusaka Political Committee. I think that we can all do a better job at preparing for those meetings and try to make sure that we get results out of them that translate into effects in the real world.

Mr. Ocaziones (Colombia) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation wishes to extend very special congratulations to you, Madam President, and the members of the team of the Permanent Mission of Jamaica on having led the Security Council admirably during the month of November.

We value the convening of this public wrap-up meeting. In connection with the limited presence of non-members of the Council at this meeting, we would like to suggest that in addition to regretting that fact, we should also think about what we perhaps are not doing right in these meetings and why they are not being given more attention by non-members.

I would like to refer to the objectives of the month. During the month of November we managed to take an important step forward in defining the role that the United Nations can play in Afghanistan and, above all, in its reconstruction. Many questions remain about the scope of that involvement, and we certainly will have to consider this question again in the weeks to come, when the process that has begun in Bonn yields its first results. It is undeniable that the Security Council ministerial meeting held this month holds great political value. Security Council resolution 1378 (2001) sets forth some general principles that should serve to synchronize and harmonize the response of the various actors of the international community that intend to meet the humanitarian, political, security, reconstruction and development challenges in Afghanistan.

Likewise, in November we took satisfactory steps in dealing with various African conflicts on the Council's agenda. The meetings with the ministers and representatives of African countries that are involved in the peace processes both in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Burundi made it possible for us to encourage further commitment from the actors to the attainment of peace in the Great Lakes region. In addition, our meetings with the Ministers of Ethiopia and Eritrea were also very useful in connection with the presence of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) in that region. In connection with West Africa, the consideration of the application

of the sanctions regime against Liberia enabled us to familiarize ourselves with the Council's political options at the present time, given the violations reported, the humanitarian impact of the sanctions regime and the possible economic repercussions of additional sanctions.

At the ministerial level we also reaffirmed our solid commitment to the strategy to combat and eliminate international terrorism. Finally, we continued to move towards the establishment of a better-targeted sanctions regime in the case of Iraq.

We recognize your leadership, Madam President, in all these achievements.

I would like to make a few suggestions in connection with our work. The first of these results from the meeting that we held with the Presidents of the Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. We want to say that at that meeting it became clear that there is a need to evaluate more carefully the work of these Tribunals, the results they have attained and their power of deterrence. The work of the Tribunals is a concrete measurement of the performance of the Security Council itself, and therefore we must not let that item become marginal. The very fact of sending strong messages to the masterminds of the massacres is a valuable result that we must duly appreciate.

My second suggestion relates to the handling of the results of the thematic debates. We agree with you, Madam, that we must be innovative in taking advantage of the contents of the relevant resolutions. Perhaps the best path would be, in situations that are under consideration in the Council, to apply them through a consultation process with other agencies of the United Nations and organizations of civil society. For example, Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), on women, peace and security, is a source of guidance from the Security Council that has a life of its own because various agencies of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations Children's Fund, and several States and non-governmental organizations have made it an important reference point in order to make a difference on the ground. This experience shows us that it is not necessary to routinely adopt annual resolutions — as we did, for example, regarding the situation of children in armed conflict — for Security Council action to be strengthened and for its agenda to retain its timeliness. In this respect, we agree with Ambassador Greenstock's comment about the need to avoid the inclusion of excessive thematic debates on our agenda.

I wish to conclude by commenting on some of the challenges for December. We are confident that in the month to come we will manage to adopt a note by the President that will contain the new guidelines for the preparation of the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly. It is also our hope that under Mali's leadership we will be able to take a fresh regional look at West Africa, particularly now that the Secretary-General has notified us of his decision to create a United Nations office in Dakar in order to take a regional approach to the political instability and the conflicts of that region.

It seems to us that we must also continue to examine the situation in Afghanistan with the same promptness and degree of interest with which we have been responding thus far to that situation. Lastly, in December we must prepare ourselves to begin the process of reviewing the reports that the Member States of the United Nations will send to the Committee on Counter-Terrorism, in fulfilment of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

Mr. Strømmen (Norway): Let me also commend you, Madam President, for the manner in which you have conducted the work of the Security Council during the month of November.

I will limit my comments to a few issues. First, we welcome the high degree of openness exercised during the month, for non-permanent members in particular. Openness and transparency in the way the Security Council conducts its business is of high importance.

Secondly, we regret that on certain occasions background documentation continues to be made available late in the process leading up to a meeting, allowing little or virtually no time for proper preparation of the subject matter at hand.

Thirdly, the thematic issues considered during this month, relating to children and armed conflict, as well as protection of civilians in armed conflict, contributed importantly to the needed comprehensiveness in the design of peacekeeping operations. Let me also take this opportunity to thank Ambassador Ward for his efforts with regard to the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations.

Last but not least — and this will not come as a surprise to any member of the Council — Norway maintains its position that brief interventions, as opposed to long ones, facilitate the way we conduct business.

Mr. Kassé (Mali) (*spoke in French*): Madam President, I, too, would like to express our deep gratitude to you and to your delegation for having convened this wrap-up meeting. You have discharged your duties very well during this busy and eventful month, during which we considered in open meetings many important subjects, particularly for Africa.

Despite all of the difficulties, you were able to resolve all of the specific problems raised during the month of November. We believe also that you have achieved the objectives that Jamaica set out in the note you circulated at the beginning of your presidency. You have also succeeded in improving our relations with our partners, as borne out by African ministerial week, with the Lusaka signatories, the Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, the memorable meeting with Madiba Mandela, and meetings on Angola and Ethiopia and Eritrea.

We have no definite position on the formalization of the ministerial meetings. However, we believe that these meetings should be well prepared and that the decisions emanating therefrom should be followed up and implemented properly. In this respect, we urge that the necessary pressure be brought to bear in order to implement the various decisions taken during African ministerial week.

You have succeeded in enhancing transparency in the work of the Council, particularly by organizing a drawing of lots for the list of speakers. You have also improved relations with Member States, the troop-contributing countries and countries that are interested in a particular situation, as well as agencies within the United Nations family. You have also made progress on the question of parity and on the protection of civilians, particularly that of women and children in armed conflict.

Finally, you have introduced an innovation by including thematic debates during the consideration of conflict situations. This is all very good and totally in keeping with the evolution of the means available to the Security Council to carry out its Charter-mandated responsibilities.

I cannot conclude without reiterating heartfelt congratulations to Ambassador Ward of Jamaica, who so ably conducted the work of the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations and whose excellent work made possible the adoption of resolution 1353 (2001). We eagerly await the submission of the upcoming report of that Working Group during Mali's presidency of the Security Council.

I thank you, Madam President, for having made us work so hard this month, and I thank you especially for having made us work so effectively.

The President: We have reached the end of our list of speakers, and, in view of the lateness of the hour, I will certainly adopt the Norwegian formula.

Let me first of all thank all of the participants in this very useful wrap-up meeting. I recognize that it has been very difficult for non-members of the Council to be present here today, in view of the many other activities that are taking place and of the fact that our meeting had to start much later than anticipated, since we had to have earlier consultations, the consultations having proved extremely useful on the situation in Afghanistan.

I wish at this time to express my deep appreciation to the members of the Council for the considerable cooperation which the Jamaican delegation received this month. The fact that we were able to adopt several resolutions on the Democratic Republic of the Congo; counter-terrorism; Afghanistan; children and armed conflict; Western Sahara; the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force and the Iraq oil-for-food programme, as well as presidential statements on Burundi, Kosovo and Angola and a statement of appreciation to former President Nelson Mandela certainly indicates the amount of work that we put in during this month and the fact that all delegations worked so well together to ensure the outcome that we had.

I wish to express our appreciation in particular to the delegations that helped us in coordinating resolutions and presidential statements and in providing elements for press statements. This has always been a cooperative effort, and never more so than this month.

I also wanted to express our deep appreciation to the Security Council Secretariat, headed by Assistant Secretary-General Joseph Stephanides. They provided

tremendous support to the delegation as well as to the members of the Council.

As far as today's wrap-up session is concerned, there are many threads which support improving transparency. I certainly hope that the ideas that have been expressed in reaction to the note that we circulated will provide a basis for further action by the members of the Council. We will certainly take on board the suggestion of Ambassador Mahbubani that we do a short analysis of the suggestions and the recommendations coming out of this meeting, and we will pass them on to the representatives of Mali when they take up the presidency tomorrow.

Again, I thank you all very much.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 1.45 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.4433

Security Council

Fifty-sixth year

Provisional

4433rd meeting

Wednesday, 5 December 2001, 10.30 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Ouane	(Mali)
Members:	Bangladesh	Mr. Chowdhury
	China	Mr. Shen Guofang
	Colombia	Mr. Franco
	France	Mr. Levitte
	Ireland	Mr. Corr
	Jamaica	Miss Durrant
	Mauritius	Mr. Koonjul
	Norway	Mr. Kolby
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Singapore	Ms. Tan
	Tunisia	Mr. Mejdoub
	Ukraine	Mr. Kuchinsky
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Eldon
	United States of America	Mr. Cunningham

Agenda

The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/2001/1132 and Corr.1)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

01-67772 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

Expression of thanks to the retiring President

The President (*spoke in French*): As this is the first meeting of the Security Council for the month of December, I should like to take this opportunity to pay tribute, on behalf of the Council, to Miss Mignonette Patricia Durrant, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, for her service as President of the Security Council for the month of November. I am sure that I speak for all members of the Council in expressing deep appreciation to Ambassador Durrant for the great diplomatic skill with which she conducted the Council's business last month.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/2001/1132 and Corr.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received letters from the representatives of Belgium and Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which they request to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite those representatives to participate in the discussion without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Kušljugić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) took a seat at the Council table; Mr. De Ruyt (Belgium) took the seat reserved for him at the side of the Council Chamber.

The President (*spoke in French*): In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, and in the absence of objection, I shall take it that the Security Council agrees to extend an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to Mr. Hédi Annabi, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

I invite Mr. Annabi to take a seat at the Council table.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2001/1132 and Corr.1, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

At this meeting, Mr. Hédi Annabi, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, will introduce the report.

I give him the floor.

Mr. Annabi: The progress report of the Secretary-General, which was issued on 29 November, is before members of the Council.

The work of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) continues to be based on its mandate implementation plan, which is a consolidated strategic and operational framework for the completion of UNMIBH's core mandate by the end of 2002. Members of the Council will recall that this plan was presented to the Council last year in an earlier report of the Secretary-General and that it was also made available by Mr. Jacques Klein, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, when he last appeared before the Council a few weeks ago. This plan identifies the objectives of the Mission and the programmes and modalities to achieve these objectives. The original tasks contained in the plan have been refined into 66 specific projects. Of these, 43 have now been completed and 23 are still ongoing. The report provides the necessary details on this and perhaps demonstrates that UNMIBH is well on track to complete its core mandate by December 2002.

At the same time, important political and operational challenges still lie ahead. Some of UNMIBH's projects — for example, removing police officers on the basis of their wartime record — face political opposition. The legislation for the police commissioner project is still opposed by nationalist parties, mainly in Croat-dominated cantons. Voluntary redeployment of minority police officers remains slow and difficult. Continued support by the Security

Council and Member States that have special influence with the parties, as well as by the High Representative on the ground, will continue to be essential for UNMIBH's success.

Some of UNMIBH's projects, such as the State Border Service or the training of riot control units, depend on securing additional financial assistance. Donor assistance in this area remains badly needed, although I understand that the recent bilateral donors conference in Sarajevo made some progress in this regard.

In addition, not all projects contained in the mission implementation plan will have been fully completed by the end of 2002, since they were designed to establish ongoing mechanisms and structures, such as those for minority recruitment or for inter-entity and regional police cooperation. These structures will require nurturing in a post-UNMIBH setting. There will therefore still be a need for continued monitoring and assistance in order to preserve what has been achieved by the United Nations over the past six years.

Given the many commitments that the United Nations is facing, the Secretary-General believes that perhaps regional actors should assume responsibility for a follow-up mission, which should have the capacity to preserve UNMIBH's accomplishments and to bring to fruition those ongoing projects that will have been left by UNMIBH. On the basis of the experience we have gained and the lessons we have learned — not only in Bosnia but also in Kosovo and East Timor — we believe that it would be desirable for such a mission to combine under one roof responsibilities for the police, judiciary and penal system. Our assessment is that this task could be carried out by a smaller mission of approximately one quarter of UNMIBH's present staff, including about 450 police officers.

We welcome the initial steps and assessments made by the High Representative, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in planning a post-UNMIBH international police monitoring presence. The Special Representative is cooperating fully with these organizations. UNMIBH has provided them with its expertise and institutional knowledge in order to facilitate their task, and UNMIBH is ready to work very closely with the organization that will assume the responsibility for the post-UNMIBH period.

This issue is being discussed at the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board meeting, which is taking place in Brussels as we speak. We hope there will be more clarity on this matter in the near future. This would be important in order to ensure timely planning and a smooth and seamless transition to a follow-on mission. We will, of course, keep the Security Council fully informed of these developments.

Ms. Tan (Singapore): We would like to thank the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report on the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH). We also thank Mr. Hédi Annabi for his clear briefing on the Mission.

It is clear that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Jacques Klein, and his team in UNMIBH are doing an excellent job in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They should be congratulated.

There is still one more year to go before UNMIBH is expected to complete its mandate. In short, UNMIBH's core mandate is to contribute to the establishment of the rule of law in Bosnia and Herzegovina by assisting in building a professional police force. This is a major undertaking. But what Mr. Klein and UNMIBH have done so far is very encouraging, to say the least. They have certainly made much progress towards the completion of the core mandate, as can be seen from their achievements so far in improving the professionalism of the police forces and in inter-entity and regional police cooperation, including combating terrorism, organized crime and illegal migration. We hope that UNMIBH's efforts to increase minority representation in the police forces will achieve better results.

But more than doing their operational work well, Mr. Klein and UNMIBH have also shown their far-sightedness to make sure that the job is done right. Two significant examples demonstrate this.

First, Mr. Klein and UNMIBH are closely abiding by the results-based approach they initiated two years ago to fulfil the Mission's mandate by the end of next year. They continue to rigorously implement the detailed mandate implementation plan they had worked out for the period 2000-2002, to match their achievements with the goals, benchmarks and performance indicators set and to make adjustments

accordingly. This is commendable. Singapore has been pushing for the Security Council to take a results-based approach since we joined the Council. The Council can learn a lot from what Mr. Klein and UNMIBH are doing.

Secondly, as early as the adoption of the mandate implementation plan, Mr. Klein and UNMIBH had established a clear exit strategy for the Mission. They not only identified when UNMIBH could exit from Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also determined the need for a follow-on presence to preserve what has been achieved with regards to law enforcement in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This has been followed through conscientiously. With one more year to go before UNMIBH closes, the Secretary-General has called for an early decision on a much smaller follow-on police mission to provide continued international monitoring and assistance. We note that the Secretary-General has reiterated the desirability of regional actors assuming responsibility for such a mission. We urge all the actors involved to respond to the Secretary-General's call. This will be another vivid demonstration of the implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council on "no exit without strategy" (S/2001/905).

However, we should remind ourselves that UNMIBH's work is not done in a vacuum. UNMIBH may be able to make a clear exit from Bosnia and Herzegovina after fulfilling its mandate, but sustainable peace and development can be achieved for the nation only if the right political, social, economic and other conditions are put in place. We note that this is the role of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement, SFOR, the United Nations and other actors. In fact, to do its job, UNMIBH is dependent on the High Representative to create the necessary conditions. One vivid example is found in the Secretary-General's report (S/2001/1132), in paragraph 15:

> "The Independent Judicial Commission, operating within the framework of the Office of the High Representative, continues to focus on overhauling the judiciary (judges and prosecutors). Progress has been slow, however, and even where police officers and institutions fully comply with their obligations and responsibilities, judicial misconduct has compromised prosecutions of perpetrators of ethnic violence, police misconduct and trafficking in human beings. Police officers are often discouraged from pursuing arrests and prosecutions, public confidence in the judicial system is low and widespread corruption continues."

There must be other similar examples. Clearly, the full spectrum of essential conditions has to be established for Bosnia and Herzegovina to attain sustainable peace and development. Contrast the presence of a nationwide policing framework with State-level services and the absence of a single national army in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the point becomes clear. It is difficult to see how a nation can exist with two independent armies while the police exist in a single national framework. I believe no other country has done this.

Before I conclude, allow me to raise a procedural issue. The Security Council took a step forward in holding a public meeting with both High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch and Special Representative of the Secretary-General Klein this September. Our view is that this practice should continue for future public meetings on Bosnia and Herzegovina, whenever the opportunity presents itself. In this way, the Council would be able to see the full picture of what is happening in Bosnia and Herzegovina and what is being done by all the key actors to make progress on the Bosnia and Herzegovina issue, including in coordination with one another. To benefit fully in this regard, perhaps the High Representative and the Head of UNMIBH could submit their reports at about the same time. Of course, the frequency of these reports could be properly timed so as to balance the need for regular meetings on Bosnia and Herzegovina and not overburden the two authorities.

Mr. Kuchinsky (Ukraine): At the outset, I would like to express once again my best wishes for your successful presidency in December, Sir, and to reiterate our sincere and complete support for your delegation in fulfilling these responsible duties. I would also like to pay tribute to Ambassador Durrant of Jamaica and her team for their excellent leadership of the Council's work in the month of November.

I am pleased to thank Assistant Secretary-General Mr. Hédi Annabi for his very comprehensive briefing. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the productive efforts of the Special Representative,

Mr. Jacques Paul Klein, and his team in implementing the key tasks of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH).

Six years after Dayton and one year before the completion of the mandate of UNMIBH, we can see a wide range of positive developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina. From our standpoint, further progress in its political and economic reconstruction will depend on three major factors.

First, there will be no visible breakthrough unless the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina takes its own share of responsibility for strengthening a multi-ethnic society. In this regard, the recent appointment of the Election Commission, which has already taken national responsibility for holding elections, is an encouraging sign.

Secondly, as the overall situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina still remains fragile, the international community should become further involved in the country. It goes without saying that the failure of international efforts in this State would have an immediate and dramatic impact on the whole region.

Thirdly, we believe that the way to inter-ethnic reconciliation and the development of stable and democratic State institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina is through the implementation of the European Union road map for the country. We call upon the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to follow this important guideline actively.

In this context, my delegation welcomes the suggestion of the Secretary-General, stated in his report, that while UNMIBH progresses towards the completion of its core mandate in 2002, it would be desirable for regional actors to assume responsibility for continued monitoring of the situation and assistance to preserve what has been achieved in the country. I am confident that such an approach is more than acceptable: it is vitally important.

However, such an important step should be based on a thorough entry strategy. In this respect, I would like to ask Mr. Annabi to comment on the practical essence of the activities of the Special Representative, Mr. Klein, that are aimed at strengthening cooperation with the organizations that are assessing the requirements for the follow-on police mission. In addition, my delegation would like to hear from Mr. Annabi some comments concerning the format of such a mission and its possible composition.

During the period under review the activities of UNMIBH have been marked by a number of significant achievements. Despite resistance, the United Nations Mission succeeded in achieving a qualitative improvement in inter-entity and regional police cooperation, as well as in State Border Service activities. We welcome the reported results in launching the Police Commissioner project, introducing a disciplinary code and preparing a State Information and Protection Agency.

Obviously, this list of achievements is not exhaustive. However, the list of tasks yet to be implemented is much longer. In this context, there are two crucial points I would like to mention.

First and foremost, let me convey the message from the Government of Ukraine concerning our deep interest in intensifying and enhancing cooperation with UNMIBH and the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in addressing the issue of the trafficking of human beings. I would like to support the Mission's activities in the framework of the Special Trafficking Operations Programme (STOP) and to express our firm commitment to further cooperation in this field. We are ready to discuss practical arrangements for such interaction.

Secondly, I would like to draw the Council's attention to the issue of national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This point has been raised by my delegation on several occasions.

As presented in the report on human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, recently submitted by José Cutileiro, the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the conditions for the national, political and cultural revival of persons that belong to ethnic minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina remain unsatisfactory. I would kindly ask Mr. Annabi to comment on the current developments in this field. I believe that this issue could be also taken up in the next report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on UNMIBH activities.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Ukraine for his kind words addressed to me.

Mr. Koonjul (Mauritius): Sir, as you assume the presidency of the Council for the month of December, let me convey to you our best wishes for a very successful presidency and pledge to you my delegation's full support and cooperation.

I also wish to echo the sentiments you have expressed to Ambassador Patricia Durrant of Jamaica for her excellent stewardship of the Council in the month of November.

Let me join previous delegations in thanking the Secretary-General for his report on the activities of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH), and Mr. Hédi Annabi, Assistant Secretary-General, for his very useful briefing this morning.

My delegation takes note of the progress that has been made since the last report of the Secretary-General. The Mission has been very successful in restructuring law enforcement bodies in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular the police force. We commend the work done by the High Representative, Mr. Petritsch; the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Klein; and all men and women working with them to implement the Peace Agreement in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

UNMIBH has been successfully — albeit in very difficult situations and despite much political indifference — working for the creation of solid structures for a professional police force to administer and enforce the rule of law in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We are pleased to learn that the Police Commissioner project is progressing well and that several ad interim police commissioners have been appointed in the Federation Ministry of Interior, the six Federation cantons and the Ministry of Interior of Republika Srpska. We are concerned, however, that the project is facing obstruction in the mixed Croat-Bosniac canton and in the cantons with Croat majorities. We call on the parties concerned to cooperate fully with UNMIBH to find a quick resolution to this problem.

My delegation is concerned that the representation of minority communities in the local police forces continues to pose a serious problem. It is extremely important that every effort be made to ensure that minorities are adequately represented in the police force. We welcome, in this respect, the appointment of a Bosniac police officer to the post of Deputy Station Commander at the newly opened police station in Srebrenica. Such appointments will help build the confidence of the population in the local police force. We are also pleased to note that there has been a 1.4 per cent increase in the number of females represented in the police force. My delegation welcomes this evolution and encourages the participation of women in the enforcement of law and order in their country.

The increase in the return of minority communities to Bosnia and Herzegovina is another clear indication that the situation on the ground is improving. We encourage other refugees and internally displaced persons to return to their homes.

The core mandate of UNMIBH will be completed at the end of December 2002 and, before that, Council members will have to decide which type of mission will take over from UNMIBH — whether a stand-alone police monitoring mission or a comprehensive rule-of-law mission as envisaged in the Dayton Accords. We believe that these options should be examined very seriously, taking into account the financial aspects as well as the need for continued monitoring and assistance to preserve what the international community has achieved so far in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We understand that Mr. Klein is cooperating with the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to assess the requirements for the follow-up police mission. We look forward to receiving a comprehensive report, which will help us take the right decisions.

While UNMIBH has made significant achievements in improving the situation on the ground since its establishment, the economic situation remains very fragile. The unpaid assessed contribution to the account for UNMIBH, as at 31 October 2001, is $107.6 million, out of $144.7 million appropriated for its activities by the General Assembly. The lack of funds can have a negative impact on the success of the Mission. We therefore call on all Member States to make the necessary disbursements, and also appeal to donors to provide funding for the priority projects of UNMIBH. As highlighted in the report of the Secretary-General, more still needs to be done to overcome the tragic past and to strengthen the capacity of the country for self-sustainability and help fulfil the conditions for European integration.

The last time we discussed the question of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Norwegian delegation had rightly observed that the progress in the region was

incremental, but not fundamental. In the new report that we have now, it does appear that some fundamental changes are in progress, especially in the areas of security, including a strategy to combat organized crime and terrorism, of poverty alleviation and of reconstruction of the electric infrastructure, as well as of human rights awareness. It is our duty and that of the international community to fully support these efforts and the democratic forces that will promote political stability and economic growth in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Mauritius for his kind words addressed to me.

Mr. Eldon (United Kingdom): Congratulations, Sir, and welcome to the presidency. You have our strong support in what promises to be a very busy month.

My thanks also to Assistant Secretary-General Annabi for the briefing he has given us today.

We are here at a pretty crucial time for the future of policing in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We have noted what Hédi Annabi has said about the Secretary-General's view that the United Nations should not provide the successor mission to the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH). This will be one of the issues under discussion at the meeting of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) Steering Board in Brussels today and tomorrow, and we will, of course, be in touch with the United Nations about the outcome of those deliberations.

Significant progress has been made in UNMIBH's mandate. The rule of law is a prerequisite for a fully functioning democracy, and that applies as much to Bosnia and Herzegovina as to other parts of the world. UNMIBH is continuing to make an important contribution in this area. However, further work is needed, in particular to create an apolitical police force, to improve crowd control capacity and to increase the unacceptably low minority representation in the police, as Ambassador Koonjul of Mauritius has said.

UNMIBH, as the Council knows, aims to complete its core mandate by 31 December next year. However, in recognizing that fact, we also have to recognize that the task of police reform is not complete. Serious structural weaknesses remain. A key challenge will be to get politics out of policing. The follow-on police mission must address police reform as part of a wider strategy for judicial reform and for establishing the rule of law in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This will be one of the considerations that will motivate our contribution to the PIC in Brussels this week.

It is also important to begin detailed planning for the follow-on mission as soon as possible. UNMIBH will have a crucial role in ensuring the success of the incoming mission.

I would like to end by saying that we hope that the successor mission will be able, as I am sure it will, to rely on the active support of UNMIBH during the handover phase.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of the United Kingdom for the kind words he addressed to me.

Mr. Shen Guofang (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): I wish at the outset to congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Council for the month of December. The Chinese delegation will fully support you in your work.

I wish also to thank Mr. Annabi for his detailed briefing. The Chinese delegation endorses the relevant analysis and views set out in the report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/1132). Further, we place on record our appreciation for the endeavours of Mr. Jacques Paul Klein and his team.

The main task of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) is to set up a professional, democratic and non-discriminatory police force in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We are pleased to note that since the last report of the Secretary-General the Mission has made marked progress in the areas of police reform, training and justice. We must, of course, acknowledge that many problems remain, and we hope that judicial reform will therefore be stepped up. Beyond that process, it is our hope that the nation-building capacity of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be enhanced.

We appreciate UNMIBH's efforts to recruit and train police from ethnic minorities. We hope that the Mission will make a greater effort, on the basis of justice and ethnic equality, to ensure the multi-ethnic character of the Bosnia and Herzegovina police force.

We note with satisfaction that, with the improved security situation and with further cooperation by some local officials, more minority refugees are returning to their homeland. Here, two main problems persist: the issue of security and inadequate housing. The latter is the major bottleneck, and we hope that the relevant United Nations agencies and the international community at large will focus on that problem and will provide support.

We support United Nations agencies as they play a positive role in the process of peace and development in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We hope they will enhance their coordination and will cooperate through an appropriate division of labour with a view to improving efficiency.

The United Nations Mission is expected to complete its core mandate by December 2002. We agree with the Secretary-General that thereafter there will still be a need for continued efforts to preserve what has been achieved. But we also believe that a new model is needed. The Secretary-General has set out an idea on this matter in paragraph 36 of his report, and the Chinese delegation supports that idea. The Secretary-General has instructed his Special Representative to begin preparations in that regard, about which we hope we will be informed as soon as possible.

While regional actors are involved, we hope that United Nations agencies too will step up their coordination and will play an important role in a joint economic rehabilitation effort for the country. That is crucial if there is to be lasting peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of China for the kind words he addressed to me.

Miss Durrant (Jamaica): Let me congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of December. I wish to assure you of the full cooperation and support of the Jamaican delegation as you seek to carry out your onerous tasks.

I wish also to thank the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Hédi Annabi, for his briefing on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and for introducing the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/1132).

When we last discussed this issue in the Council, the High Representative reminded us that the work of the international community in Bosnia and Herzegovina was predicated on empowering the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina and on bringing the country even closer to the European mainstream. For its part, the Security Council has been guided by the intent and the provisions of the Dayton Peace Agreement, and we have used the timelines of the peace implementation plan as an indicator of progress. We have received regular updates on the incremental progress being made in police and judicial reform, training law enforcement personnel, economic reconstruction, the return of refugees and reconciliation efforts. All of these are necessary for completing a programme of work that will need to see further progress if the core mandate of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) is to be completed by December 2002.

We commend the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and his team for the systematic approach that has been taken, which has resulted in the completion of 43 of the 66 projects into which the mandate implementation plan had been refined. Judicial and police reform have received priority. Steps have been taken to ensure ethnically diverse recruitment of police and appointment of police commissioners, and to ensure adequate training of the police in democratic policing methods.

We are pleased with the continued progress in the work of the State Border Service, which now monitors 75 per cent of the borders and which is expected to be fully deployed by September 2002. The creation of a police service independent of UNMIBH and the lowering of cross-border crime by December 2002 are also examples of the strides which we hope will be made. These achievements, which are discussed in paragraph 32 of the Secretary-General's report, are worthy of commendation. We also commend Bosnia and Herzegovina for its participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations in Ethiopia and Eritrea and in East Timor.

With regard to the judiciary, we are aware that UNMIBH has had an uphill task, although improvements have been made. Problems still exist, however, including in the fight against corruption and judicial misconduct. We are particularly concerned that, as stated in paragraph 15 of the Secretary-General's report, judicial misconduct has compromised

prosecutions of perpetrators of ethnic violence, police misconduct and trafficking in human beings. We encourage the continued focus of the Independent Judicial Commission on overhauling the judiciary.

Political cohesion and neutrality remain elusive, and overall process is stifled by the continued promotion of national and ethnic differences. Nationalist actions eat away at progress, and the problems in the Republika Srpska have weakened the political framework. We continue to urge the parties to work together in a spirit of national unity. We also believe that priority should continue to be given to lessening the reliance of Bosnia and Herzegovina on donor support and to the prevailing high rate of unemployment and lack of investment. We recognize that economic activity has been affected by other problems, such as political corruption, and by a lack of clear and transparent policies among political authorities. Indeed, resolution 1357 (2001), which we adopted earlier this year, reminds us that

> "the continued willingness of the international community and major donors to assume the political, military and economic burden of implementation and reconstruction efforts will be determined by the compliance and active participation by all the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in implementing the Peace Agreement and rebuilding a civil society". (*para. 2*)

In the short term, a certain level of economic viability is needed to encourage the return of refugees, for future access to the European mainstream and to stimulate long-term growth, leading to economic sustainability. We therefore call on the political authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to cooperate in the creation of a climate conducive to economic growth. Fundamental economic reform must go hand in hand with improvements to the political framework.

The Secretary-General has called for an early decision on a follow-up police mission in the territory to ensure timely planning and a smooth transition. We look forward to receiving detailed plans for streamlining the international presence and for this follow-up mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, bearing in mind the progress already made and the challenges ahead.

It is a measure of UNMIBH's success that the Secretary-General believes that, after December 2002, the police mission could be approximately one quarter of the present strength of UNMIBH.

As we continue to examine the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is important that a regional perspective be maintained if there is to be a comprehensive and lasting peace. Coordination on common problems and goals such as reconciliation and the creation of a multi-ethnic society must continue to be pursued.

In this regard, we are pleased with the recent cooperation of police at the regional level and the approval, on 12 September, of a regional strategy to combat illegal migration, organized crime and terrorism. The Special Trafficking Operations Programme (STOP), which has been hampered in Bosnia and Herzegovina by weaknesses in the legal system, must be an integral part of this regional cooperation.

We would also like to reiterate the importance we attach to the pledged commitment of the parties to cooperate with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

In closing, we wish to commend the work of the High Representative and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and their efforts to place greater emphasis on judicial and police reform, economic growth, the increase in refugee return, the promotion of reconciliation and on preparing Bosnia and Herzegovina for entry into the European mainstream.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Jamaica for the kind words she addressed to me.

Mr. Levitte (France) (*spoke in French*): I wish to convey my best wishes to the delegation of Mali at this first public meeting for the month of December — one that promises to be busy, given the current international situation. We have no doubt, Sir, that the Council will be successful thanks to your wise guidance.

I should like also to commend Ambassador Patricia Durrant and her entire team, who led our work with outstanding success during the month of November — also an especially busy month, due to international events and to the presence in New York of a large number of ministers and heads of State.

France associates itself with the position of the European Union, which will be presented during our

discussion by the representative of Belgium. I shall therefore make only a few brief comments in my national capacity.

I should like to begin by expressing our appreciation for the very comprehensive briefing by the Secretariat on the activities of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH).

UNMIBH is an exemplary peace operation. It is exemplary, first, because of what it is doing. It is guided by clear-cut objectives that are set forth in a plan for the implementation of its mandate. It is benefiting from the effective work of a Special Representative, of a Police Commissioner, and of an entire team determined to achieve its goals. It is reporting to the Security Council on its successes, on the difficulties it is encountering, and on the forthcoming stages of its work. The results — significant ones — are there for all to see. The latest report of the Secretary-General makes this clear. I am thinking in particular of the statistics that attest to the success that has been achieved thanks to the strengthening of the State Border Service.

Secondly, UNMIBH is exemplary because of its ability to provide its own exit strategy. In this respect, it constitutes an excellent example of the implementation of the recommendations of the Brahimi report on peace operations. We understand that the period from the end of December 2002 to the beginning of 2003 is the most likely time frame for the accomplishment of the major tasks of the United Nations Mission.

Thirdly, the exemplary nature of UNMIBH is also due to the prospect of the takeover of this United Nations operation by regional organizations, in this case the European Union or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The redefinition of the respective roles of the United Nations and of the regional organizations, the strengthening of their coordination and the quest for greater complementarity between them are among the things currently being considered within these walls.

In the context of the overall process of reflection on the restructuring of the international community's presence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, now being carried out under the leadership of Mr. Wolfgang Petritsch, the European Union and the OSCE each are undertaking an evaluation of the circumstances in which monitoring and assistance efforts with respect to the Bosnian police might be continued. When these evaluations are made known, the member States of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council will be able to decide, depending on the results, on the relative merits of each option. When the time comes, they will have to choose the best solution. I should like emphasize the need to make this choice only when the time comes.

For its part, France, which is looking forward to the conclusion of these studies, notes the advantages of continuing monitoring and assistance efforts with respect to the Bosnian police within the framework of a European Union mission. Indeed, the prospect of a rapprochement with the European Union is open to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The European Union has a high degree of political legitimacy there. Moreover, with 620 individuals, it is the primary contributor to UNMIBH's International Police Task Force. Through its civilian crisis management activities, it should have the operational capacity to conduct the mission that will follow up on the United Nations Mission. Furthermore, it will be in a position to involve in its action States that are non-members of the European Union, thanks in particular to the work of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is meant to join itself with Europe, and it is doing so as part of the process of stabilization and association. We encourage the Bosnian authorities to continue their efforts and to persevere in this direction with all the necessary resolve. This is what is in store for Bosnia and Herzegovina and, more generally, for South-Eastern Europe.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of France for the kind words he addressed to me.

Mr. Cherif (Tunisia) (*spoke in French*): May I express my congratulations to you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Council. I assure you of my delegation's complete cooperation for the success of our work. We also convey our sincere thanks to Ambassador Durrant and her entire team for the excellent work they carried out at the head of the Security Council during November.

I join previous speakers in thanking Assistant-Secretary-General Hédi Annabi for his briefing on the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH). My delegation welcomes the report of the Secretary-

General, which notes the important progress achieved during the period covered by the report.

My delegation believes that advances have been made in virtually all the fields of action under UNMIBH's mandate, and also, above all, in all aspects of the lives of the Bosnian people. The success achieved to date is a sign of growing maturity and a profound will to build a shared, prosperous and multi-ethnic future for the entire population. We agree with the Secretary-General that accomplishing this progress has not been easy and that resistance and obstacles had be overcome. Nonetheless, we continue to believe that the results obtained are satisfactory and deserving of the commitment of the entire international community.

To fully achieve lasting peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is important now to strengthen the foundations of efficient, democratic and multi-ethnic institutions and to help the country's inhabitants in their efforts to build a new Bosnian society. In this respect, we believe that the international community must maintain its commitments in the country to ensure a peaceful transition that preserves and improves on the achievements made and takes into consideration the overall situation in the Balkans and the capacity of Bosnian society to take charge of its own future.

Allow me to make a few comments on issues that, in our opinion, are of particular importance for ensuring peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

First, my delegation welcomes the encouraging results achieved on police reform. The creation of a police force in conformity with international standards of personal integrity and professional competence is a decisive step for the success of the operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is important to continue the efforts for better representation of ethnic minorities in the local police force. In this respect, we welcome the appointment of a Bosniac to a high-level post in a police station in the Republika Srpska. This appointment opens the way to reconciliation and puts an end to the prevailing distrust.

It should also be underscored that the success of the operation of reforming and restructuring the police force remains largely dependent on the neutrality of the force. It is therefore necessary to strengthen this quality and to eliminate any political, partisan or ethnic bias that could hamper the process.

Secondly, my delegation also welcomes the steps taken by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to combat terrorism. Indeed, the decision to create a database on this issue deserves the international community's support.

Thirdly, my delegation would like to give its support to UNMIBH's efforts for judicial reform. It is vital that the judicial service be independent, impartial and non-discriminatory in dealing with the entire Bosnian population. Those brought to justice must not only have legal guarantees during the trial but also be convinced of the fairness of the decisions handed down by the judges. We believe that once confidence is established, the coexistence of all the ethnic communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be more easily attainable.

Fourthly, we welcome the efforts made by the State Border Service. We believe that this service has a great responsibility in combating drug-trafficking, smuggling and illegal immigration. It has an increased responsibility today in the fight against terrorism and arms-trafficking. In this context, we wish to express our appreciation to UNMIBH for the establishment of the Special Trafficking Operations Programme (STOP). This important issue is a major concern of the entire international community.

Fifthly, my delegation wishes to pay tribute to the agencies of the United Nations system for their contributions to the reconstruction efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We encourage the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its efforts to protect and rebuild places of worship. We also welcome the assistance given by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to refugees and displaced persons upon their return.

In conclusion, as Tunisia, which has always been attentive to Bosnia and Herzegovina and will remain so, prepares to leave the Council at the end of this month, we wish to express the hope that we will at last see a reconciled, united, multi-ethnic and prosperous Bosnia and Herzegovina. The country will certainly be able to look to the future. It will draw strength from the pain of the past and from the hope nurtured by new generations.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Tunisia for his kind words addressed to me.

Mr. Corr (Ireland): May I also congratulate Mali, and you personally, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency for December, which promises to be a very busy month, and assure you of the full support of my delegation. I would also like to thank Ambassador Durrant of Jamaica for what was an outstanding presidency in November.

My delegation would like to thank Mr. Annabi for his comprehensive briefing and, indeed, thank all those concerned for producing the Mission report now before us. Ireland warmly commends the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH), including the International Police Task Force, for its achievements to date in restructuring and reforming the law enforcement agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina and — as the report of the Secretary-General points out — for completing 43 of the 66 core projects in its mandate implementation plan.

Ireland fully endorses the statement which will be delivered shortly by Belgium on behalf of the European Union. I therefore wish to make only a few comments in my national capacity.

It is clear that although UNMIBH has achieved significant results in Bosnia and Herzegovina, there remains cause for concern in some areas. Ongoing problems include an unacceptably high level of political interference, inadequate support for the police force, a lack of judicial and penal reform and poor economic progress. It is essential that all the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina implement fully the provisions of the Dayton-Paris Peace Accords and work to develop viable State-level institutions, rather than allow short-term political interests to prevail over the interests of the country as a whole.

Ireland welcomes the work of the Police Commissioner project, which aims to create a non-political police service, and the introduction of a disciplinary code. We urge the relevant authorities to cooperate with UNMIBH in its efforts to encourage minority representation in local police forces. We agree fully with the Secretary-General's assessment that the response of police forces to the violence against minority returnees is an important indicator of police performance.

Ireland welcomes the progress achieved in relation to refugee returns and notes that the figures for 2001 are the highest since the end of the war. However, Bosnia and Herzegovina is still faced with significant pockets of resistance to the establishment of a truly multi-ethnic society. It is also struggling to create a viable economy and continues to suffer from serious deficiencies in State- and entity-level governmental authorities.

The relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina must assume more responsibility. They should work to improve inter-entity cooperation and push ahead with vital economic reform, which will strengthen the country's capacity for self-sustainability and help it to fulfil the conditions outlined in the European Union road map for moving towards European integration.

The State Border Service and the Special Trafficking Operations Programme (STOP), established by UNMIBH, have achieved significant progress in relation to human trafficking and illegal migration. We note that since July 2001, seven individuals have been convicted of trafficking-related offences, but that, regrettably, overall progress in combating this illegal trade remains severely hampered. Further progress in relation to these issues and in relation to property rights law is central to the normalization and stability of the entire region.

Finally, Ireland believes strongly that the international community must continue its involvement in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Work should continue to reaffirm the rule of law, develop independent and effective institutions, facilitate further refugee returns and foster economic development. Efforts should be made to ensure that the considerable achievements made in relation to policing and future work in restructuring and reforming the police force should not be endangered by weakness within the judicial system. We believe that particular attention should be paid during the next year to ensuring progress in relation to judicial, penal and police reform. A recalibrated international presence will be necessary to achieve this progress and to create a Bosnia and Herzegovina that is sustainable, integrated fully into Europe and able to meet its international obligations.

It is important that planning continue urgently at all levels so that a smaller, but robust, follow-on mission with achievable objectives can be deployed before the end of the current UNMIBH mandate.

Ireland notes the Secretary-General's recommendation that regional actors are best placed to assume responsibility for this, and, for its part, is

participating actively in talks about the various possibilities. We look forward to further discussions on this matter in the Council.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Ireland for the kind words he addressed to me.

Mr. Cunningham (United States of America): Mr. President, let me join others in congratulating you and welcoming you to the chair at the head of this table. I also want to thank Mr. Annabi for his update.

We support the intent of the Secretary-General and the efforts of Special Representative Klein to finish implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) by the end of 2002 and to transfer it to a regional organization. We hope that this process can serve as a model in some way for future such situations.

The Peace Implementation Council Steering Board, which is meeting today and tomorrow in Brussels, will consider how to streamline the international civilian presence. Special Representative Klein is participating in that discussion, and we hope that this will ensure close coordination and help produce the seamless transition that I am sure we all want. We expect that the conclusions of the Brussels discussion will play a key role in shaping the end-phase transition.

As this process goes ahead, the State Border Service is an area of special concern to us. The State Border Service needs more political support and more resources. The Secretary-General's report is clear that there are positive results from the Border Service in reducing illegal immigration and smuggling, and the Border Service will also have a role in ensuring effective efforts against terrorism.

We strongly support the Secretary-General's call for more resources and the UNMIBH initiative for a donors' conference later this month. The State Border Service has a key and central role in Bosnia's future, and its short-term and long-term financial needs require urgent attention from the international community.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of the United States for his kind words addressed to me.

Mr. Franco (Colombia) (*spoke in Spanish*): Allow me to begin by congratulating you, Mr. President, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council, and I want to extend very special thanks to the delegation of Jamaica and to Ambassador Durrant for their extraordinarily professional work.

We also want to express thanks for the briefing that Mr. Hédi Annabi has given us and for the Secretary-General's report on the work of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) carried out over recent months. It is gratifying to see, in these two reports, the progress the Mission has made in the implementation of its mandate. In this connection, we wish to emphasize two elements that we consider fundamental so that the reforms under way to create a professional police force will be structural and lasting.

First of all, the recruitment of members of minority groups constitutes a guarantee of the neutrality that should characterize a police force. In addition, because of the authority that an institution such as the police represents within a social structure, its composition must be a model and an example to be followed. This means that shaping a multi-ethnic force serves other purposes as well.

We hope that the appointment of the Bosniac representative as Deputy Station Commander at the Srebrenica police station will serve as an incentive, as the Secretary-General mentions, for the return of minority groups to that region. These efforts should be imitated in other zones.

Secondly, we want to underscore the work being accomplished by the State Border Service in cooperation with the police. The illegal transit of persons, just like the illicit traffic in various goods, is a recurring problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina. For this reason, we want to emphasize the progress made in recent months in border control. The new international reality makes this control an indispensable tool in the fight against terrorism, and we therefore believe it is necessary for the joint work to continue between the police and the staff of the Border Service. We welcome the Secretary-General's appeal regarding the need for funds for this programme.

We believe that the Security Council must not be absent from the discussions that are under way on the future of the international presence in Bosnia and

Herzegovina, since this will have an impact, to a greater or lesser extent, on the work that lies ahead.

One of the recurring concerns that we have heard in our deliberations on Bosnia and Herzegovina is exactly what the United Nations exit strategy should be in this peacekeeping operation. Some say that the exit should occur once the implementation of the Dayton Accords is complete. Others say that it should be next year, when the Mission completes its mandate. Still others believe that there should be a gradual progress, involving regional actors in the work being done by the United Nations. All of these alternatives are of interest and deserve detailed analysis.

We are awaiting the results of the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board meeting that is being held today in Brussels. The conclusions of that meeting will have an influence on the new role that the Security Council is to play in the future.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Colombia for his kind words addressed to me.

Mr. Chowdhury (Bangladesh): May I begin by expressing our confidence in your leadership, Mr. President, and assuring you of our fullest cooperation. Tributes are also due to Jamaica — the Ambassador and her team — for their role as President in November. I would also like to thank Assistant Secretary-General Hédi Annabi for his succinct yet comprehensive briefing and for introducing the report of the Secretary-General contained in document S/2001/1132.

We are encouraged by the fact that the general situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is now more stable. We are satisfied that the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) has made significant progress towards the goal of fulfilling its core mandates. Bangladesh is pleased at the notable improvements in the security-related aspects of the mandate of UNMIBH. At the beginning of last year, when the State Border Service (SBS) law was imposed, an institution was established to address the wartime legacy of a fragmented and porous border. The extension of the Service in the past two years to protect 75 per cent of the border and the Sarajevo airport is a commendable achievement. We would like to know, however, about the projected time frame for 100 per cent coverage.

It is also noteworthy that the 1,364 police personnel of the SBS are drawn from a multi-ethnic catchment area. The reduction of illegal migration to Europe and success in diminishing human trafficking, particularly of women, owe much to the SBS. We believe that concerted efforts by UNMIBH, the Office of the High Representative and the local political leadership will soon enable us to achieve further progress in this area.

Dayton has given an important mandate to UNMIBH to reform and restructure the local police force. That was based on the consideration that the establishment of a professional and non-political police force is key to combating terrorism, corruption and discrimination. One of the most critical challenges in Bosnia and Herzegovina was to ensure minority representation in the police force. Positive results have become increasingly apparent in such representation. That is also reflected in the recruitment of female police. That mission has to be relentlessly pursued as the UNMIBH mandate comes to a close in December 2002, a year from now.

The effective functioning of police institutions is severely compromised when the judiciary does not develop hand in hand with those institutions. In this case, it has not kept pace with police reform. The lack of judicial enforcement discourages the police from the pursuit and apprehension of criminals. In cases of ethnically motivated crimes, adequate response by the judicial system is essential to gain and retain public confidence in the institution. That would also dissuade extremists from perpetrating ethnically motivated violence. Immediate priorities like economic reform to encourage investment, sustainable minority returns and institution-building cannot be achieved without the establishment of the rule of law based on effective policing and an impartial judiciary. The judicial system in Bosnia and Herzegovina clearly remains dysfunctional. Attention is required in this area if we are to gain tangible overall benefits from the restructuring of the police institutions.

A most effective way to heal the scars of a tragic past is to create economic opportunities for the people. That will enable them to look forward to a promising future. A long-term solution will remain elusive if the country cannot be put on a firm footing for progress that ultimately leads to integration with the rest of Europe. We are heartened that, in order to identify the needs and potentials for development, a United Nations

Development Programme mission recently conducted an initial assessment of requirements for a multi-year economic and social recovery plan. That must be followed through in the coming months. However, in itself that will not be sufficient. There must be continued committed support from the international community in order that stability be sustained.

Bangladesh welcomes the early planning and preparation for an exit. Such a need was made salient in last year's Council debate on the theme of no exit without strategy. The decision to close UNMIBH will be sound if its mandate is fully and satisfactorily accomplished. The United Nations and regional actors must generate the momentum that will imbue people with hope for the future. Hope is what will help them overcome their differences and set them on course for a prosperous future.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Bangladesh for his kind words addressed to me.

Mr. Lavrov (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): Like other members of the Security Council, we are pleased to see you in the Chair, Mr. President. We join in the words of gratitude addressed to Ambassador Durrant and the entire delegation of Jamaica for the work they did last month. We are also pleased to welcome the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and we are grateful to Mr. Hédi Annabi for his briefing.

Russia has a positive opinion of the activities of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) and of its Head, Mr. Jacques Paul Klein, which are described in detail in the report of the Secretary-General. In spite of the narrow mandate of the Mission, which includes promoting the establishment of an effective system of law enforcement bodies in the country, its activities are of significant importance in completing one of the key tasks of the settlement, namely, ensuring public safety and internal stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We note with satisfaction that there has been some success in this regard. We support the activities of the Head of the Mission aimed at fulfilling its core mandate by the end of the year 2002.

In view of the fragility of the political situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, we believe that the main goal of the international community in that country is to ensure genuine stability, the basis for which is the Peace Agreement. We are convinced that we can carry out this task through coordination of the efforts of all participants in the settlement process and by carrying out serious structural changes in the work of the international community in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The main areas for such a restructuring should be in enhancing effectiveness and eliminating discrepancies and duplications in the work of international bodies in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in reducing expenditures and the number of staff.

As we see it, one of the priority tasks in that process is to define the criteria for compliance by the international organs in Bosnia and Herzegovina with their mandates and to establish clear-cut stages for transfer of their responsibilities for the situation in the country to Bosnians themselves. However, we believe that we should not act hastily with regard to the introduction of drastic changes in the work of the international structures in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In our view, the existing proposals must be well worked out, and it is extremely necessary that they be in full compliance with Dayton. In fact, the implementation of reforms must on the whole be proportionate to the development of the situation in the region.

We are also not in favour of hasty action with regard to the ultimate fate of the international police operation. We have no doubt that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is the best prepared organization for conducting the police operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina after the conclusion of the core mandate of the United Nations Mission, in December 2002. However, the transfer of operations to OSCE will involve a substantial additional expenditure that will hardly be covered through voluntary contributions. We need to weigh carefully all of the factors, including the views of the Bosnian sides themselves, and jointly take the most rational decision. Any haste in assigning to the OSCE mission the function of monitoring the activities of the police contingent would be unjustifiable, especially bearing in mind the fact that the mandate of the Mission will be in effect for at least another year. A final decision on the successor to the United Nations Mission should be taken by the Council in compliance with the Peace Agreement, and should be approved by the Security Council.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of the Russian Federation for his kind words addressed to me.

Mr. Kolby (Norway): I am also pleased to see you presiding over the Council, Mr. President. I too would like to thank the Jamaican delegation for their excellent work last month. I also want to thank the Secretary-General for his report, and Mr. Annabi for his introduction.

Norway commends the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) for its contribution to the implementation of the Dayton-Paris Peace Agreements. We welcome the progress made in the areas of police reform, the State Border Service and the rule of law. An effective police service and an impartial judiciary are necessary to ensure the rule of law, a democratic, multi-ethnic society, and safety for minority returnees.

Local, entity and State officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina must bear the primary responsibility — and do more in this respect — for reforming the police and the judiciary. This must include efforts to combat organized crime and any support for terrorism within their territory. But it is clear that international support will continue to be needed if these efforts are to be successful. This is in the interests not only of Bosnia and Herzegovina itself, but also of the wider Balkan region and Europe at large.

We must recognize the interdependence of police and judicial reform. The pace of judicial reform has lagged behind, and further efforts are needed if it is to catch up with the police reforms. In the police sector, we would like to see improved cooperation between entity police forces. Minority representation in local police forces continues to be inadequate in both entities. There is also a need for the further training and equipping of entity police and the State Border Service. Norway has therefore decided to support the State Border Service by providing 200,000 euros.

The police and judiciary of Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to require international support and supervision after the completion of UNMIBH's core mandate in December 2002. Norway will also continue to support the international community's efforts to preserve UNMIBH's important achievements beyond 2002. Work is in progress to evaluate the most practical and efficient ways and means of achieving this. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has demonstrated throughout the Balkans, not least in Croatia, where it took up the mantle from the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium, that it has the necessary experience, capacity and capability in this regard.

Norway emphasizes the important contributions that neighbouring countries can make in promoting stability, the rule of law and democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ethnic tension, organized crime, trafficking, illegal migration and political instability can be adequately dealt with only through cooperation within a regional framework and through a unified international approach. We strongly welcome regional inter-police cooperation and the regional strategy to combat organized crime and terrorism; approved by the interior ministers of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Croatia, the entity interior ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Director of the State Border Service. This is a positive development.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Norway for his kind words addressed to me.

I shall now make a statement in my capacity as the representative of Mali.

My delegation broadly shares the views expressed in the Council today. However, after expressing my gratitude to the Secretary-General for his report to and Mr. Annabi for his briefing, I would like to make a few brief comments.

First of all, we welcome the encouraging results that have been obtained in the implementation of the Dayton Accords, and we urge all the communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate actively in the building of a multi-ethnic and democratic society and in promoting the peaceful return of refugees.

Secondly, we invite the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to continue the macroeconomic reform that is being undertaken, and we encourage the regional players to provide support for the economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a view to consolidating peace in that country.

Thirdly, we welcome and encourage the efforts being made to restructure the police and reform the judiciary, as well as the human rights institutions. It is certainly true that all of these efforts will help to establish an effective judicial system that can dispense true justice to the citizens — a prerequisite for peace.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm the strong support of my delegation for the invaluable efforts of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and we associate ourselves with the appeal to the international community for full support for the efforts to reconstruct Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I now resume my functions as President.

The next speaker inscribed on my list is the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to whom I give the floor.

Mr. Kušljugić (Bosnia and Herzegovina): Thank you, Mr. President, for giving me the opportunity to comment on the report of the Secretary-General regarding the achievements of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) during the past six months. The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina welcomes the report, and I would personally like to thank Mr. Annabi for his comprehensive update and comments.

We consider the achievements presented in the report to be part of the overall improvements recently recorded both in the country and in the region as a whole. Over the past year, the general situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina has substantially improved, as a result of both the international community's achievements and the new political reality in the country and the region.

Let me remind the Council that, after the general elections of November 2000, for the first time in its 10-year history, a multi-ethnic Government was established in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is committed to working in partnership with the international community to build a functioning, democratic, multi-ethnic State. That fact decisively triggered the progress which is evident from the report before the Council today. However, we consider the progress achieved to be only a first step in the long-term process of necessary, fundamental reform, which is basically aimed at bringing the country closer to the rest of Europe. In this process, the current priorities of the Government are institutional development; ensuring the rule of law; improving the judicial system; and implementing economic reforms.

We therefore see this report as a good opportunity to emphasize once more the most important issues for our country, not only with regard to the full implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement, but also with regard to the long-term process of political and economic transition — a process related to the role of the institutions of the United Nations system, given their current mandates.

Restructuring the police and the judicial system is of paramount importance for government priorities in the area of institutional development and the establishment of the rule of law. The contribution of UNMIBH to that goal is substantial, and we appreciate all the efforts made in that regard. Not only are better and more responsible police visible nationwide on the ground, but mutual inter-entity and regional police cooperation is very much improved and the work of the State Border Service is more effective. A significant decrease in illegal border crossings and human trafficking has been reported as well as the first results relating to anti-criminal activities.

At the same time, there has been a visible improvement in the implementation of annex 7 of the Dayton Peace Agreement concerning refugee return, and we recognize the efforts of UNMIBH and other United Nations system agencies in that regard. We anticipate that insistence on the presence of professional police officers from all ethnic groups, as well as on the presence of the so-called minority cadets in the police academies in both entities, will further contribute to inter-ethnic reconciliation and, finally, to a further improvement in refugee return. The first encouraging results have already been reported. According to the data from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 66,856 so-called minority returns have been registered in the first 10 months of 2001 — almost 40 per cent more than during the same period in 2000. Between 1999 and now, some 175,300 returns have been registered in areas where returnees now represent the minority. The substantial contribution of UNMIBH and other United Nations agencies is obvious in this field.

However, according to the estimates of the Office of the High Representative, a further five years will be necessary for the full completion of the return process and thus for a full implementation of annex 7. Therefore, even with the progress recorded over the past year, we are far from the final target. Moreover, the progress of the return of refugees and internally displaced persons has not be implemented equally in the two entities, especially in some areas — the so-called black spots — which are well known to the representatives of international organizations. That is

discouraging. Hence, success can be achieved only if the international community and the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina focus their future activities on those weak spots that have already been identified.

We especially welcome the help and very constructive role of UNMIBH in implementing the measures concerning actions to combat terrorism, initiated by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina after the terrorist attacks on 11 September. For the first time, the central and entity institutions have fully cooperated in joint anti-terrorist activities, expanding cooperation to neighbouring countries and their institutions.

We clearly recognize UNMIBH's activities as an integral part of the international community's assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina's institutions in their efforts to build a politically and economically sustainable European country. In this context, we see the reported achievements especially as establishing conditions on the ground allowing the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina to be free to decide to return to their pre-war homes or to choose to live elsewhere, and as developing a modern, independent and effective judiciary system as well as responsible and non-political police structures.

These are indispensable preconditions for the successful implementation of necessary economic reforms aimed at creating an enabling environment for economic regeneration based on foreign direct investments. Hence, we expect UNMIBH to make an additional effort until the end of its mandate to complete the work on these issues. We also emphasize that the activities begun during the UNMBIH mandate are part of a long-term recovery process, both in the country and in the region. Some of these are far from being completed. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that a clear and smooth transition of the core responsibilities set out in UNMIBH's current mandate be made to other international structures already present in the country in order to ensure future continuing support to Bosnia and Herzegovina's institutions. In this respect, we fully support the process under way to streamline the activities of the international organizations in the country aimed at achieving closer coordination with and more coherent international assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina. We expect that this process, which is on the agenda of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council, which is meeting today and tomorrow, will also take into consideration the necessity for a regional approach, since many issues — above all security, refugee return, inter-ethnic reconciliation and economic recovery — are regional problems.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina for his kind words addressed to me.

The next speaker on my list is the representative of Belgium. I invite him to take a seat at the Council table and to make his statement.

Mr. De Ruyt (Belgium) (*spoke in French*): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated with the European Union — Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia — the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein align themselves with this statement.

May I first congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Council and pay tribute to the outstanding work done by Jamaica in November. We express our warm thanks to you, Sir, for opening this briefing to delegations and for thus allowing us to express our opinions on a subject close to the European Union's heart.

I also wish to thank Mr. Hédi Annabi for his briefing this morning.

The Secretary-General's report on progress made by the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) over the past six months makes encouraging reading. We are pleased to see that UNMIBH's mission, in accordance with the mandate implementation plan, continues to make progress and that 43 of its 66 projects have been completed so far. We are particularly satisfied with the results achieved in relation to the State Border Service, the fight against trafficking in human beings and drugs, and counter-terrorism. The fact that the regional police forces and the two entities are improving their cooperation is very positive and can only serve to make their work even more efficient.

It is a shame that the efforts of the police are not yet being effectively taken up by the judicial system, which, as noted by the Independent Judicial Commission, is making only slow progress. Public confidence, not only in the judicial system, but also in

the police services, is essential if it is to work properly. We therefore call on UNMIBH to pursue the efforts it has begun in the difficult task of overhauling the judiciary.

If it continues in this way, UNMIBH should have completed its core tasks by the end of its mandate in December next year. As mentioned by the Secretary-General in his report, however, monitoring and assistance activities will follow from there. As we stated during the debate in the Council in September this year, the European Union appreciates and supports the High Representative's comprehensive approach to restructuring the current civilian presence on the ground. Indeed, the transition must be planned intelligently and the avenues open to us for streamlining the presence of the international community on the ground must be explored, while bearing two goals in mind: efficiency and coordination. The document which High Representative Petritsch is to submit at the meeting of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council, being held today and tomorrow in Brussels, will most certainly enable us to make progress towards a rapid implementation of such streamlining, which will further enhance the efficiency of the international community's action in the country.

UNMIBH's work is directly in line with the progress made by Bosnia and Herzegovina in implementing the Dayton Accords. The progress made is positive and the situation is developing satisfactorily. The European Union strongly urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to continue implementing the road map to Europe. We should like to stress once again that responsible political management, combined with an absolute and immediate determination to implement institutional, legal and economic reforms in full, are essential prerequisites for speedy integration into European Union structures. Regional cooperation is no less important to the consolidation of this process and, as we emphasised in September, in this respect Bosnia and Herzegovina has made significant progress, which must be taken forward.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank the representative of Belgium for his kind words addressed to me.

I now give the floor to Mr. Annabi to respond to the comments made and questions asked.

Mr. Annabi: The Ambassador of Ukraine asked about the cooperation that the Special Representative, Mr. Jacques Klein, is extending to other organizations that may be in a position to take over responsibility for the follow-on mission that is foreseen to be put in place after December next year. Mr. Klein has received very clear instructions from the Secretary-General to cooperate in all these efforts to ensure a smooth and seamless transition. To that end, he participates in all meetings that are held to look into these issues. He participates in all meetings organized by the High Representative on the streamlining of the international presence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including, of course, the meeting being held today and tomorrow of the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board.

Mr. Klein and UNMIBH have also met with all delegations that have visited Sarajevo to plan for a possible follow-on mission, and there have been such delegations from both the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). This cooperation with possible successor organizations takes place at all levels, whether it is Mr. Klein himself or the Police Commissioner or the Civil Affairs Unit of UNMIBH or even the regional commanders of the International Police Task Force (IPTF) in the various regions.

I think the second question by the Ambassador of Ukraine related to the possible format of the follow-on mission. The decisions that will be taken in due course in this regard will be made by whatever organization emerges as the successor to UNMIBH. But we have suggested, on the basis of our experience and knowledge of the situation, as you will have seen in the Secretary-General's report, that any follow-on mission would be in a better position to do its work if it combined the responsibilities of the police, the judicial system and the penal system. This is, as I indicated, one of the lessons we have learned from previous operations. We also feel that the follow-on mission could perform its functions as they are now foreseen with about 25 per cent of the current strength of UNMIBH — in other words, about 450 police officers plus whatever personnel would be necessary to cover the other areas of activity. Altogether, we feel that it can be a much smaller mission than is the case for UNMIBH, and UNMIBH will in due course begin to downsize so that we can move from one operation to the other in a seamless manner.

Finally, the Ambassador of Ukraine had asked about the activities undertaken to protect the human rights of minorities. UNMIBH, of course, contributes

to these activities within its mandate. In other words, it tries to ensure as much as possible that the police adhere to internationally acceptable human rights standards and principles of democratic policing. The broader human rights issues fall within the purview of the High Representative, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the OSCE. As you know, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights provides expertise, guidance and coordination on all relevant human rights issues with the other organizations involved in Bosnia.

Again, as regards the follow-on mission, I would like to assure Ambassador Eldon that UNMIBH will indeed cooperate actively with the successor organization. We are eager to begin this planning process as soon as there is clarity in this regard. The Secretary-General has provided some 13 months advance notice, so there is time to prepare, and we will be ready to cooperate very actively. It should not actually be that difficult, because whatever organization takes over, a lot of existing personnel can wear the same hats. So, from my perspective, the issue is not really whether we will cooperate actively — that is a given — but whether the necessary preparations will be made in time for a smooth and seamless takeover.

Finally, the Ambassador of Bangladesh asked when the State Border Service would be able to deploy fully, and what the time frame for that was. As we know, the State Border Service is now responsible for and covers 75 per cent of the borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including Sarajevo airport. We estimate that they should be able to cover all the borders — 100 per cent of the borders — of the country by some time in the second half of next year, and that they will then be fully deployed. But that, of course, is not entirely in our hands and depends, in particular, on the provision of funding and equipment for the State Border Service. As the report indicates, there is currently a shortfall of some $2.5 million regarding the equipment required by the Border Service and a shortfall, which is even more important, regarding the payment of salaries to these people, which is in the vicinity of $16 million. Just to give an example, in the Brčko area, the State Border Service has to cover a border that runs along a river, but it has not yet been able to acquire a motorboat to patrol that river. So there are serious funding and equipment issues that, of course, depend on the provision, in a timely manner, of the necessary voluntary contributions.

The President (*spoke in French*): I thank Mr. Annabi for the clarifications that he has provided. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 12.40 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.4434

Security Council

Fifty-sixth year

Provisional

4434th meeting

Thursday, 6 December 2001, 1.25 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Ouane	(Mali)
Members:	Bangladesh	Mr. Chowdhury
	China	Mr. Shen Guofang
	Colombia	Mr. Valdivieso
	France	Mr. Levitte
	Ireland	Mr. Corr
	Jamaica	Miss Durrant
	Mauritius	Mr. Koonjul
	Norway	Mr. Kolby
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Singapore	Ms. Foo
	Tunisia	Mr. Ben Youssef
	Ukraine	Mr. Kuchinsky
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Eldon
	United States of America	Mr. Cunningham

Agenda

The situation in Afghanistan

Letter dated 5 December 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2001/1154)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

01-67992 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 1.25 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Afghanistan

Letter dated 5 December 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2001/1154)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2001/1153, which contains the text of the draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to document S/2001/1154, which contains a letter dated 5 December 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.

I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Afghanistan, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In acceding to this request, the Security Council recalls that the Interim Authority in Afghanistan will be established on 22 December 2001. According to paragraph 3 of the Agreement on provisional arrangements in Afghanistan pending the re-establishment of permanent government institutions, signed in Bonn on 5 December 2001, the Interim Authority shall occupy the seat of Afghanistan at the United Nations and in its specialized agencies, as well as in other international institutions and conferences.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Farhádi (Afghanistan) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in French*): It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bangladesh, China, Colombia, France, Ireland, Jamaica, Mali, Mauritius, Norway, Russian Federation, Singapore, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in French*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1383 (2001).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.4435

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 December 2001

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 4435th meeting of the Security Council

Held in private in the Security Council Chamber at Headquarters on Friday, 7 December 2001, at 10.30 a.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued by the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"On 7 December 2001, the Security Council, pursuant to Annex II, Section A of resolution 1353 (2001), held its 4435th meeting in private with the troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).

"The Security Council and the troop-contributing countries heard a briefing under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure by Mr. Joachim Hütter, Director of Europe and Latin America Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

"The members of the Council had a constructive exchange of views with representatives of participating troop-contributing countries."

01-68435 (E) 071201

United Nations S/PV.4435*

Security Council

Distr.: General
11 December 2001

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 4435th (closed) meeting of the Security Council

Held in private in the Security Council Chamber at Headquarters on Friday, 7 December 2001, at 10.30 a.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"On 7 December 2001, the Security Council, pursuant to Annex II, Section A of resolution 1353 (2001), held its 4435th meeting in private with the troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).

"The Security Council and the troop-contributing countries heard a briefing under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure by Mr. Joachim Hütter, Director of Europe and Latin America Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

"The members of the Council had a constructive exchange of views with representatives of participating troop-contributing countries."

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

01-68435* (E) 111201